

American Rescue Plan (ARP) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) Request Form

Please complete this form in accordance with the process instructions.

Agency/Point of Contact: Department of Human Services, Andrea Simonett

Title of Request: Emergency Shelter Response Avivo Village

Date: 6/22/2022 **Request Amount:** \$ 1,800,000

Expenditure Time Period: 7/1/2022 to 6/30/2023 (no later than 6/30/2023)

Brief Summary of Request: (Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached)

In December 2020, Avivo, a nonprofit organization in Hennepin County, opened Avivo Village. The Avivo Village is a program built to support individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness along a pathway to securing permanent housing. The Avivo Village is a 100-bed emergency shelter that provides basic needs, storage, security, 24/7 staffing, and case management support services. Due to its physical layout (i.e., individual tiny homes), the Avivo Village model offers safer COVID-19 prevention than a traditional shelter. The target population is individuals, couples, and unaccompanied youth (18-24) with a disability, who are experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

These funds are needed to sustain shelter capacity at Avivo Village as federal COVID resources expire.

This proposal requests \$1.8 million to sustain Avivo Village operations through June 2023. The requested funds are part of a combination of public and private resources which includes \$1.8 million in support directly from Hennepin County. The state, in partnership with local government, philanthropy, and community partners, has kept COVID cases low among this vulnerable population partly by supporting innovative shelter models such as Avivo Village, which were built with a public health focus. Maintaining low case numbers in this population is vitally important as we know that people experiencing homelessness who become COVID-positive are at a much higher risk of hospitalization. Hospitalization rates are even higher for people experiencing homelessness who are living outdoors, making access to shelter a critical strategy to mitigate hospitalization, preserve health system capacity, and avoid adverse health outcomes and death. This proposal represents the use of funds prioritized and requested by Hennepin County. The Department of Human Services has authority to award these funds to Hennepin County under Minnesota Statutes, section 256E.36.

Jodi Harpstead Digitally signed by Jodi Harpstead
Date: 2022.06.24 11:35:09 -05'00'
Department Head Signature

6/24/2022
Date