CITY OF STOUGHTON
FINANCE DEPARTMENT
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Date: August 2, 2021

To: Finance Committee

From: Jamin Friedl

Subject: Reallocation of HATS Donation

In late 2018, the City of Stoughton Common Council agreed to donate $15,000 to the Housing Advocacy Team of Stoughton, Inc. (HATS) to assist with the Pine Street Project. In 2021 it was determined that project was not going to move forward and HATS paid the $15,000 back to the City of Stoughton.

The following letter from HATS discusses a new project they would like to request the $15,000 to be used towards

Respectfully,

Jamin Friedl

Housing Advocacy Team of Stoughton, Inc. (HATS)
STEP FORWARD PROGRAM

Incorporated in 2019, the Housing Advocacy Team of Stoughton, Inc. (HATS) is organized to address affordable housing needs within the Stoughton Area School District by working with the public and private entities and individuals in the Stoughton area community.

Developed by members of HATS and shared input by the staff of Stoughton Area Resource Team Inc. (START) the Step Forward Program is formed to help individuals and families who may be homeless or at risk of being homeless to achieve permanent housing and stability through case management services and support from additional community resources.

Modeled from housing and homeless prevention programs in nearby communities of Edgerton and Janesville, WI, the Step Forward Program, by design, would be the first Stoughton based program of its kind for individuals and families to address these issues and to gain permanent housing achieving stability and sustainability.

THE PROGRAM IS STRUCTURED TO:

*Help families and/or individuals to achieve the goal of safe, affordable permanent housing.

*Maintain steady employment, including avenues of job training and higher education or increase household income through other sources (example: SSDI).

*Offer ongoing case management services by START or the Stoughton Area Senior Center to focus on supportive services for basic needs, assist in household budgeting and life skills, and referral to mental health resources, if appropriate and more with the goal of obtaining self-efficiency.

*Provide definitive program rules agreed upon by those accepted in the Step Forward Program in collaboration with landlords, members of HATS, START, Stoughton Senior Center, and any other significant community resource representatives.

*Meet the goals of HATS and the Step Forward Program in working with sponsors, public and private entities, collaborative partners, and individuals to build relationships for maintaining success and achieving sustainability for those in the program.

[August 2021]