

City of Lawrence
Outside Agency
Bi-annual Report
2016

Reports on activity should be submitted electronically to Danielle Buschkoetter, at dbuschkoetter@lawrenceks.org. Reports on activities from January 2016 to June 2016 are due on July 15th 2016. Cumulative reports on activities from January 2016 through December 2016 are due on February 15th 2017.

Agency Name:

Reporting Period (please check one):

☐ January - June
(deadline July 15)

☒ January – December
(deadline February 15)

1. Give a brief narrative of the activities that were funded with City funds over the reporting period checked above.

The city funds were used for our ESC (rent & utility assistance) program. This is a cooperative program shared between Penn House (Ballard), Salvation Army, ECKAN, Willow, and Douglas County Senior Services. The money is allocated to Douglas County residents who are in danger of being evicted or having a utility shut off. Any Douglas County household with income within 180% of federal poverty level are eligible for up to \$200 in a year, and a maximum of \$600 in a lifetime. The long term goal is that recipients of the money will have steady housing and utilities after receiving the assistance.

2. Provide specific detail (and supportive documents, if needed) to demonstrate progress made toward your goals/objectives.

The ESC program contacts households 30, 60, and 90 days after receiving assistance to ask if their housing and utilities have remained stable after receiving funds. Of the households reached, 100% have reported stable housing and utilities after receiving ESC funds.

3. How have you impacted the citizens of Lawrence?

This program has deep impact on the lives of many Lawrence and Douglas County households. In 2016, a total of 167 Douglas County households received money to maintain their housing or utility service. The impact of not losing housing or utilities is extraordinary and self-evident. It is much cheaper to keep someone housed and with their utilities on than to find and place people into a new housing situation. In addition, many of our households assisted have children or elderly individuals in them. The consequences of losing housing or utilities are much heavier for these individuals than on others.

4. What barriers, if any, have you encountered?

The only barrier to our goal is the disparity between the level of need we see in the community and the amount of households we can assist. We are able to assist many households, however we turn away many more people in need of help. At the Penn House, we typically run out of our allotted funds each month within 30 minutes of taking requests.

5. Review the line-item budget you provided in your application. How much of your allocation has been spent?

The full allocation of \$13,200 was distributed through the ESC program in 2016.