



PRESS RELEASE

City of South Haven

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Local Media

DATE: October 16, 2018

CITY RECEIVES HOME FUNDS FOR HOMEOWNER EXTERIOR REPAIRS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – (South Haven, Michigan) The City of South Haven was notified in August 2018 that it had been awarded HOME funds for homeowner rehabilitation to elevate and improve low-to-moderate income households. The awarded amount is \$66,000 for three (3) homes.

The City Council approved the terms of the grant agreement with MSHDA at their Monday, October 15th city council meeting. The HOME program requires a homeowner targeted area, defined in South Haven as an area with boundaries of Phoenix Street to the north, Blue Star Highway to the east, Aylworth Street to the south, and Broadway/Phillips/LeGrange Streets to the west.

The City's match is in the amount of \$5,000 per home (up to \$15,000 total). MSHDA will offer interest-free, partially-deferred MSHDA HOME loans for exterior and interior moderate, necessary improvements up to \$19,500.

City of South Haven Mayor Scott Smith stated, "The award of the HOME grant is very positive news for the community. The HOME funds will assist homeowners within the targeted area with exterior repairs such as window and door replacement, roof replacement, and a variety of other rehabilitation items."

According to the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA), the HOME program, created by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development helps build, buy or rehabilitate affordable housing for rent or ownership. The competitive application for local units of government and/or nonprofit organizations will assist residents statewide with homeowner

rehabilitation and/or homebuyer activities via the Housing Initiative Division and up to \$1 million dollars in Federal HOME funding is being made available statewide.

Ten Michigan communities will benefit from these grants with awards ranging from \$66,000 to \$176,000.

Smith Housing Consulting has been contracted to administer the grant and conduct the environmental review. Once the environmental review is completed in mid-December, homes will actively be sought for the program. If homeowners within the targeted area wish to be considered or have questions, they may contact Deb Davidson at City Hall, ddavidson@south-haven.com, 269-637-0748 or Marilyn Smith at Smith Housing Consulting, ms.smithhousing@gmail.com, 734-341-1866.

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