

1 **RESOLUTION NO.**

2 **WHEREAS**, there is a high demand that is not being met for shelters to
3 serve those who have experienced family violence; and

4 **WHEREAS**, during the COVID-19 local disaster, overall incidents of crime
5 have decreased while family violence rates have increased; and

6 **WHEREAS**, SAFE Alliance reports that as of May 28, 2020, 70 adults and
7 children were on their waitlist for admission and a number of households were
8 assessed as being medium/high or high risk for lethality; and

9 **WHEREAS**, preventing homelessness and supporting housing stability is a
10 public health priority during the COVID-19 local disaster; and

11 **WHEREAS**, providing shelter for those who have experienced family
12 violence addresses homelessness as illustrated by the following statistics:

- 13 • 80% of U.S. moms experiencing homelessness had previously
14 experienced family violence,
- 15 • 70% of people experiencing homelessness in Austin/Travis County report
16 that past trauma or abuse caused their current homelessness, and
- 17 • 76% of youth experiencing homelessness have experienced foster care,
18 juvenile justice, or both; and

19 **WHEREAS**, an existing hotel with the following features could be
20 renovated to serve hundreds of families as protective shelter from family violence:

- 21 • Approximately 70-100 furnished hotel rooms, including studios, one-
22 room, and two-room suites, with kitchenettes,
- 23 • an outdoor space, common areas, onsite residential laundry facility,

