



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-2387, **Agenda Item #:** 23.

7/29/2021

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of agreements for bridge housing services with A New Entry, Inc. for a total contract amount not to exceed \$395,797 and The Other Ones Foundation, Inc. for a total contract amount not to exceed \$521,180, each for a thirty-seven (37) month term.

Lead Department

Downtown Austin Community Court.

Fiscal Note

Funding for the agreements is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Downtown Austin Community Court Operating Budget.

Prior Council Action:

August 11, 2021 - Council approved Ordinance No. 20200812-001 adopting the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget.

For More Information:

Peter Valdez, Court Administrator, Downtown Austin Community Court (512) 974-4873; Robert Kingham, Operations Manager, Downtown Austin Community Court (512) 974-1394.

Additional Backup Information:

Long-term homelessness, physical and mental health issues, and substance use disorders are among the common challenges of the individuals served by the Intensive Case Management (ICM) program at the Downtown Austin Community Court (DACC). All of these factors serve as barriers to achieving stability and obtaining and maintaining housing. The ICM staff connect clients with supportive services and work to locate permanent housing for all clients. Bridge housing is a hybrid of emergency shelter and transitional housing to serve the target population that requires short-term housing and supportive services to achieve self-sufficiency or to access available permanent housing options.

DACC issued a Request for Applications (RFA) BH2021LW for bridge housing. The solicitation was issued on May 6, 2021 and it closed on June 3, 2021. Applicants were required to have successful experience providing the proposed service(s) and/or working with the target population. Agencies with experience serving the target population seeking to create a new program, or that have a successful program that could benefit the target populations were encouraged to apply. Of the three applications received, the recommended applicants submitted the best evaluated responsive offers. A complete solicitation package, including a log of applications received, is available for viewing on the Downtown Austin Community Court's website. Link: <https://www.austintexas.gov/article/bridge-housing-solicitation>.

The solicitation was advertised through One Voice Central Texas, a coalition of over one hundred local health and human services organizations and through CTOSH (Collaboration Technologies for Organizations Serving the Homeless), a primary method of communication for local planning groups, homeless services providers, and individuals interested in issues of homelessness in Austin and Travis County. Three applications were

received.

The following awards are recommended by DACC:

1. A New Entry, Inc., providing beds in a congregate setting with targeted case management and peer support services.
2. The Other Ones Foundation, Inc., providing non-congregate shelter units, targeted case management, access to basic needs, and workforce opportunities.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability