

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE May 18, 2026

TO Honorable Members of the Quality of Life, Arts and Culture Committee: Zarin Gracey (Chair), Laura Cadena (Vice Chair), Adam Bazaldua, Paul Ridley, Bill Roth, Chad West, Gay Willis

SUBJECT **Update on Procurements Authorized by Administrative Action Dallas Financial Empowerment Center Awards**

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform the Quality of Life, Arts, and Culture Committee of the procurement authorized through Administrative Action to be administered by the Office of Housing and Community Empowerment (OHCE). Three awards have been approved with International Rescue Committee, BCL of Texas, and Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity.

Background

The Dallas Financial Empowerment Center Program (FEC) promotes sustained household financial stability. Through the program, participants work collaboratively with trained financial coaches to establish self-determined financial goals and monitor progress toward achieving them. Goals are typically short- to medium-term (one to three years) and may include increasing savings, reducing consumer debt, improving credit scores, preparing for or achieving homeownership, and enhancing overall financial capability and upward economic mobility.

Prior Action and Review

FEC has been administered by the former Office of Community Care and Empowerment and now through OHCE. The following list includes prior Council action and service contract approvals:

- April 28th, 2021, the City Council authorized the acceptance of an FEC planning grant in the amount of \$20,000.00 from Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund, Inc. (CFE) by Council Resolution No. 21-0694
- February 23rd, 2022, the City Council authorized the acceptance of an FEC implementation grant in the amount of \$250,000.00 from CFE Fund by Council Resolution No. 22-0377
- September 28th, 2022, the City Council authorized to execute a two-year service contract with Women in Need of Generous Support for three FEC's in an amount not to exceed \$2,988,075.00, by Council Resolution No. 22-1469

- September 28th, 2023, the Office of Community Care and Empowerment authorized a one-year contract by Administrative Action 23-6197 with International Rescue Committee in the amount of \$100,000.00
- August 6th, 2025, the City Council adopted FY 25-26 Consolidated Plan Budget which included Community Development Block Grant fund allocation of \$300,000 approved for the FEC by Council Resolution No. 25-1185.
- November 12th, 2025, the City Council authorized a \$175,000 contract with the International Rescue Committee (IRC), funded by the Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund, Inc. Implementation grant, to continue providing free financial coaching services for Dallas residents, by Council Resolution No. 25-1767.

Outcomes to Date

- Total outcomes since program launch February 17, 2023: 1,324 Residents Served
- 4,276 Counseling Sessions
- \$378,995 Total Savings increased
- \$597,398 Total non-mortgage debt reduced

Outcomes Beginning October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024

- 849 clients served
- 2,614 counseling sessions conducted
- \$274,017 increase in total savings
- \$387,315 reduction in total non-mortgage debt

During FY25, OCCE worked to strategically realign programmatic priorities, by restructuring our funding model to incentivize leveraged funding and reduce cost for the City. This led to a temporary pause in Dallas FEC program delivery with the removal of general funds, emphasizing the use of grant funding.

Procurement Process

OHCE issued a Notification of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the FEC. Consistent with the competitive proposal process, submissions were reviewed and scored by an evaluation team based on the criteria established in the solicitation, including price and other relevant evaluation factors.

The timeline for the competitive process was as follows:

- February 20, 2026, NOFA issued for the Drivers of Opportunity – Dallas FEC program.

- March 13, 2026, Application deadline and close of NOFA.
- March 20, 2026, Proposals reviewed and scored by a selection committee (OHCE, Dallas Animal Services, and Budget and Management Services).
- April 7, 2026, Concurrence Memo with recommended awards was signed.
- April 10, 2026, Award letters were sent for signature.
- May 22, 2026, Expected date to receive final contracts from CAO

A total of 4 submissions were received across two service categories. Below is the scoring of each organization:

Proposer- Tier	Address	Total Score
*BCL of Texas – Tier 2	400 S. Zang Blvd. Ste. 1220 Dallas, TX 75208	88.25
*Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity – Tier 2	2800 N. Hampton Road, Dallas, TX 75212	87.50
*International Rescue Committee Dallas – Tier 1	6500 Greenville Avenue Ste 500 Dallas, TX 75206	85.25
Services of Hope – Tier 2	1137 Conveyor Ln, Dallas, TX 75247	68.75

*Denotes successful proposer

Three contracts with the following organizations to serve as FECs, using CDBG funding have been awarded:

- International Rescue Committee for \$100,000.00
- BCL of Texas for \$100,000.00
- Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity for \$100,000.00

Timeline and Next Steps

Upon contract execution, services will be available immediately through the selected Certified FEC Provider - Tier 1, International Rescue Committee. The Emerging FEC Providers - Tier 2, BCL of Texas and Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity, have an eight-week launch grace period to complete required training and certifications, at which point services will commence. City of Dallas and community partners will be able to direct referrals to the appropriate FEC provider. Under these contracts, 767 residents will be served with financial coaching services.

DATE May 18, 2026
SUBJECT **Update on Procurements Authorized by Administrative Action Dallas Financial Empowerment Center Awards**
PAGE **4 of 4**

Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact myself or Thor Erickson, Director, Office of Housing and Community Empowerment at 214-670-3632 or Thor.Erickson@dallas.gov.

Service First, Now!



M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira
Assistant City Manager

c: Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, City Manager
Bertram Vandenberg, City Attorney (I)
Mamatha Sparks, City Auditor (I)
Billerae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Baron Eliason, Inspector General (I)
Dominique Artis, Chief of Public Safety

Dev Rastogi, Assistant City Manager
Alina Ciocan, Assistant City Manager
Robin Bentley, Assistant City Manager
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
Ahmad Goree, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
John Johnson, Chief of Real Estate
Directors and Assistant Directors