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### **City of Dallas**

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# Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance

August 6, 2020 1:00 PM

> Public Notice 2 0 05 8 3

POSTED CITY SECRETARY DALLAS, TX

### **2020 CITY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS**

COUNCIL COMMITTEE	
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY
Atkins (C), Blewett (VC), Gates, McGough, Narvaez,	Narvaez (C), Atkins (VC), Blackmon, Blewett, Gates
Resendez, West	
GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL	HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS SOLUTIONS
MANAGEMENT	West (C), Thomas (VC), Arnold, Blackmon, Kleinman,
Gates (C), Mendelsohn (VC), Arnold, Bazaldua,	Mendelsohn, Resendez
Kleinman, Narvaez, Thomas	
PUBLIC SAFETY	QUALITY OF LIFE, ARTS, AND CULTURE
McGough (C), Arnold (VC), Bazaldua, Blewett,	Arnold (C), Gates (VC), Atkins, Narvaez, West
Medrano, Mendelsohn, Thomas	
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	WORKFORCE, EDUCATION, AND EQUITY
Kleinman (C), Medrano, (VC), Atkins, Bazaldua,	Thomas (C), Resendez (VC), Blackmon, Kleinman,
Blewett, McGough, West	Medrano
AD HOC JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE	AD HOC LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
McGough (C), Blewett, Mendelsohn, Narvaez, West	Johnson (C), Blackmon (VC), Atkins, Gates,
	Mendelsohn
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COVID-19 RECOVERY	
AND ASSISTANCE	
Thomas (C), Atkins, Blewett, Gates,	

Mendelsohn, Narvaez, Resendez
(C) – Chair, (VC) – Vice Chair

This Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance meeting will be held by videoconference. The meeting will be broadcast live on Spectrum Cable Channel 95 and online at bit.ly/cityofdallastv. The public may also listen to the meeting as an attendee at the following videoconference link:

https://dallascityhall.webex.com/dallascityhall/onstage/g.php?MTID=e633a86d82a03b56067503f9739dfbb61

### Call to Order

### **MINUTES**

1. <u>20-1430</u> Approval of the June 25, 2020 Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance Meeting Minutes

**Attachments:** Minutes

### **BRIEFING ITEMS**

A. 20-1435 COVID-19 Testing and Data

[Dr. Kelvin Baggett, City of Dallas Health and Healthcare Access Czar; Dr. Philip Huang, Director, Dallas County Health and Human Services; Dr.

Timothy Bray, University of Texas at Dallas]

B. <u>20-1434</u> Rental and Mortgage Assistance Program and Small Business Continuity

Fund Program Update

[Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood

Services, City Manager's Office]

**Attachments:** Presentation

C. 20-1443 Monitoring and Enforcement of Current City Emergency Regulations and

**Executive and County Orders** 

[Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager, City Manager's Office]

<u>Attachments:</u> Presentation

### **BRIEFING MEMORANDUMS**

D. 20-1436 Equitable Health Access Update

- a. Transportation
- b. Food Access
- c. Face Covering Distribution
- d. Internet Access
- e. Eviction Support

[Liz Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion, City Manager's Office]

<u>Attachments:</u> Memo

E. <u>20-1466</u> Upcoming Office of Community Care City Council Agenda Item for

Childcare Providers Micro-Grant Program

[Jessica Galleshaw, Director, Office of Community Care]

<u>Attachments:</u> Memo

### **ADJOURNMENT**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION NOTICE**

A closed executive session may be held if the discussion of any of the above agenda items concerns one of the following:

- seeking the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, or any matter in which the duty of the attorney to the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.071]
- 2. deliberating the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the city in negotiations with a third person. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.072]
- 3. deliberating a negotiated contract for a prospective gift or donation to the city if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the city in negotiations with a third person. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.073]
- 4. deliberating the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee unless the officer or employee who is the subject of the deliberation or hearing requests a public hearing. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.074]
- 5. deliberating the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation, of security personnel or devices. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.076]
- 6. discussing or deliberating commercial or financial information that the city has received from a business prospect that the city seeks to have locate, stay or expand in or near the city and with which the city is conducting economic development negotiations; or deliberating the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect. [Tex Govt. Code §551.087]
- 7. deliberating security assessments or deployments relating to information resources technology, network security information, or the deployment or specific occasions for implementations of security personnel, critical infrastructure, or security devices. [Tex Govt. Code §551.089]



### City of Dallas

### Agenda Information Sheet

Approval of the June 25, 2020 Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance Meeting Minutes

### Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance Meeting Record

The Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance meetings are recorded. Agenda materials are available online at <a href="https://dallascityhall.com">www.dallascityhall.com</a>. Recordings may be reviewed online at <a href="https://dallastx.swagit.com/ad-hoc-committees">https://dallastx.swagit.com/ad-hoc-committees</a>.

Note: This meeting was conducted via videoconference to comply with a social distancing mandate during a declared state of disaster.

Meeting Date: June 25, 2020 Convened: 1:03 p.m. Adjourned: 2:28 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:** 

Casey Thomas, Chair Tennell Atkins David Blewett Jennifer Gates Cara Mendelsohn Omar Narvaez Jaime Resendez **Committee Members Absent:** 

N/A

**Other Council Members Present:** 

Adam McGough

### **AGENDA**

**CALL TO ORDER** 

### **BRIEFINGS**

1. Updates on COVID-19 and Contact Tracing

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Kelvin Baggett, City of Dallas Health and Healthcare Czar; Dr. Timothy Bray, The Urban Institute for Urban Policy Research, University of Texas at Dallas; Dr. Trish Perl, Chief Division of Infectious Diseases, UT Southwestern; Dr. Philip Huang, Director, Dallas County Health and Human Services.

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): The region's foremost health experts gave updates on the COVID-19 pandemic and contact tracing. There were comments from the committee about cancelling elective procedures, individual zip codes, effects on children, mask adherence, and enforcement measures. Information only.

- 2. Focus Area Updates
  - a) Tennell Atkins: Economic Development Funds/Policies
  - b) Jennifer Gates: Public Health
  - c) Jaime Resendez: Technology, Youth, and Schools
  - d) Cara Mendelsohn: Homeless Populations
  - e) Omar Narvaez: Senior Population
  - f) David Blewett: Budget Implications and Tax Revenue

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): Committee members were assigned their focus areas. Information only.

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APPROVED BY: ATTESTED BY:

Casey Thomas, Chair Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance Anne Lockyer, Coordinator Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance



### City of Dallas

### Agenda Information Sheet

File #: 20-1435 Item #: A.

COVID-19 Testing and Data

[Dr. Kelvin Baggett, City of Dallas Health and Healthcare Access Czar; Dr. Philip Huang, Director, Dallas County Health and Human Services; Dr. Timothy Bray, University of Texas at Dallas]



### City of Dallas

### Agenda Information Sheet

**File #:** 20-1434 **Item #:** B.

Rental and Mortgage Assistance Program and Small Business Continuity Fund Program Update [Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services, City Manager's Office]



# Rental and Mortgage Assistance Program Update

Ad Hoc Committee on Economic Recovery and Assistance August 6, 2020

David Noguera, Director Housing & Neighborhood Revitalization

Jessica Galleshaw, Director Office of Community Care

Thor Erickson, CARES Act Manager, Housing & Neighborhood Revitalization

## **Presentation Overview**



- Background
- Performance CDBG, ESG, HOME, HOPWA
- Demographics of Populations Served
- CDBG, ESG, HOME Assisted Map
- CDBG Assisted Map
- ESG Assisted Map
- HOME Assisted Map
- Performance HOPWA
- Issues / Operational Concerns
- CDBG Grantees
- CARES Act Grantees
- Communication & Marketing
- Next Steps
- Discussion



# Background



- Short –Term Mortgage and Rental Assistance Program collaboration between HOU and OCC launched May 4
- \$13.7M committed to the efforts reallocation and stimulus funds
  - \$5.6M OHS
  - \$3.5M OCC
  - \$4.5M HOU
    - CDBG Grantees \$1M
- \$10M committed via CARES Act allocation
  - HOU \$6M
  - OCC \$3.5M
  - OFH \$500K

# Background

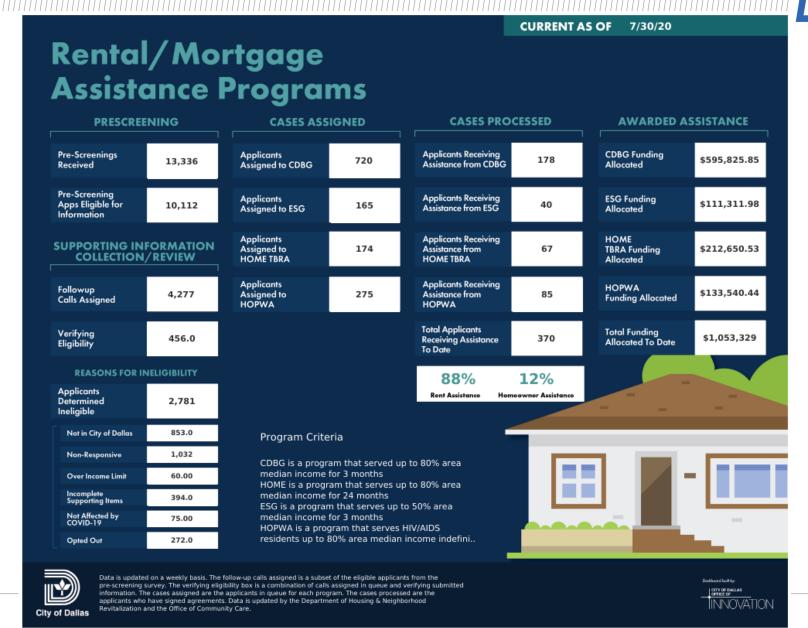


- Short-Term Mortgage and Rental Assistance Program is a combination of assistance provided by city departments, non-profit organizations and DHA
- Intent is to serve as many people as possible
- Grantees have geographical spread across the city and serve many different vulnerable and hard to reach populations.
- Program is balancing a sense of urgency with the thorough reporting requirements of being good stewards of taxpayer dollars



# Performance - CDBG, ESG, HOME, HOPWA





public.tableau.com/profile/
cityofdallasdtxinnovationte
am



# Demographics of population served



	Applied	Served	CDBG	ESG	HOME TBRA
Asian	2.1%	2.2%	1.3%	0%	6.7%
Black or African American	58.7%	59.6%	59.5%	68%	53.3%
White or Caucasian	31.1%	32.0%	33.3%	28%	31.1%
Other Race/Two or More Races	8.1%	6.2%	5.9%	4%	8.9%
Hispanic	21.2%	17.7%	15.7%	17.6%	24.4%
Average Age of Applicant	48	40	41	37	37
Applicants over 65	13.7%	1.6%	0.6%	2.9%	3.8%
0-30% AMI	62.3%	50.2%	41.5%	78.8%	60.9%
31-50% AMI	22.9%	32.3%	34.1%	21.2%	34.8%
51-80% AMI	13.9%	17.5%	24.4%	0.0%	4.3%
81%+ AMI	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Male	30.9%	30.8%	32.1%	22.9%	29.4%
Female	69.1%	69.2%	67.9%	77.1%	70.6%
Rent	87%	88%	81%	100%	100%
Own	13%	12%	19%	0%	0%

	Percent of approved per council district				
	Applied	Served	CDBG	ESG	HOME TBRA
1	4%	5%	4%	8%	7%
2	12%	13%	12%	0%	26%
3	7%	6%	6%	8%	4%
4	5%	6%	7%	8%	2%
5	3%	2%	1%	12%	0%
6	4%	3%	4%	0%	2%
7	8%	5%	7%	8%	0%
8	7%	11%	13%	20%	2%
9	5%	6%	5%	4%	11%
10	11%	9%	10%	0%	7%
11	9%	11%	11%	0%	17%
12	9%	5%	4%	8%	9%
13	4%	4%	4%	8%	2%
14	10%	13%	13%	16%	11%



This data is updated as applicant data is entered into the system. The percent of who has applied and who we have served changes with each application approved for assistance.

# CDBG, ESG, HOME Assisted Map

App Density High: 111

HOME TBRA

Program

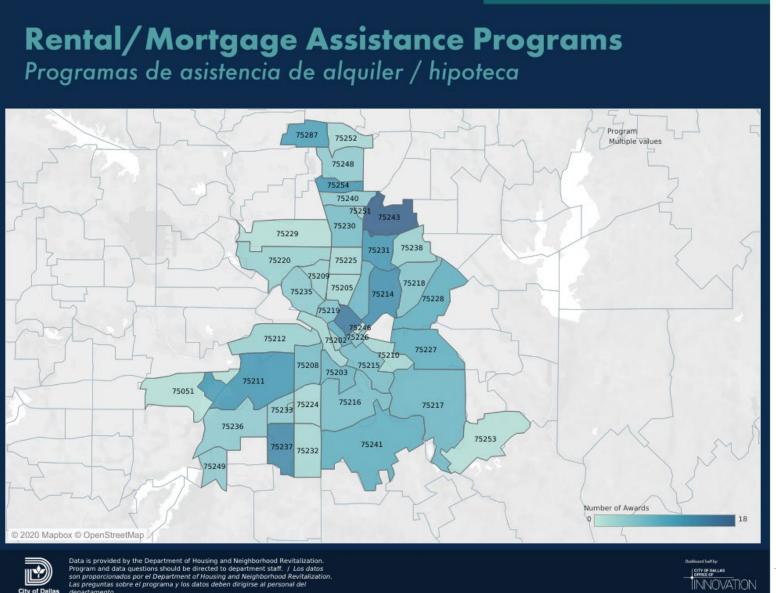
MRAP Applicants Served by Application Locations

- This map shows applicants to the Short-Term Mortgage and Rental Assistance Program.
  - Light blue indicates at least 1 applicant
  - Red indicates as many as 111 ½ mile radius

# applicants within a Solid color circles represent CDBG, ESG, HOME

# CDBG, ESG, HOME Assisted Map

• This zip code map shows areas of Dallas served by CDBG, ESG, and HOME programs

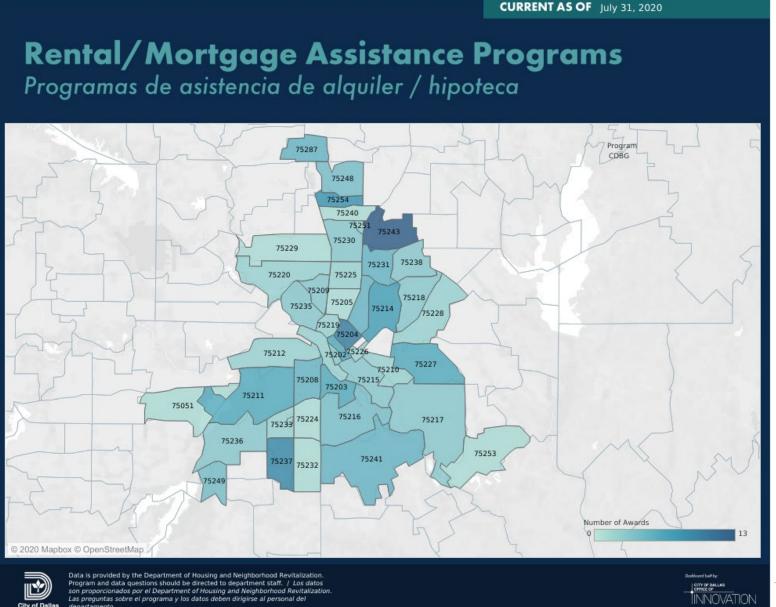


CURRENT AS OF July 31, 2020



# **CDBG** Assisted Map

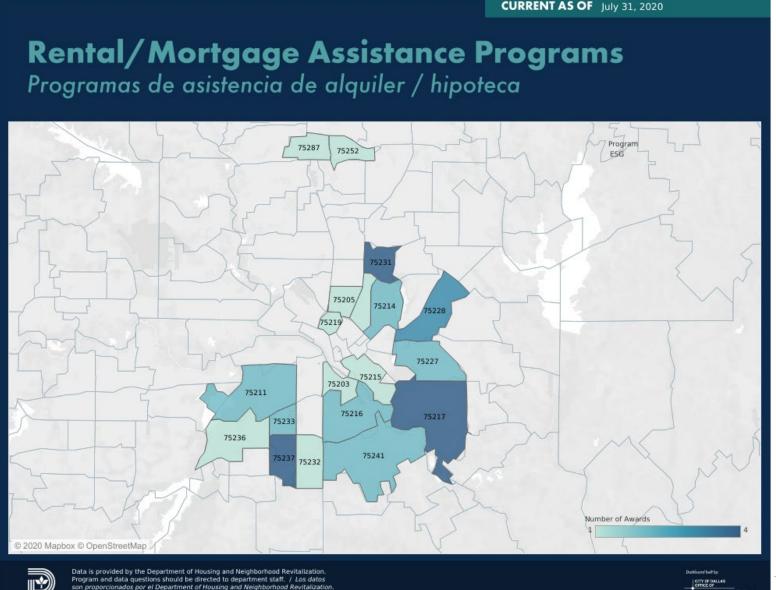
- CDBG funding serves up to 80% AMI
- Up to \$1,500 for 3 months Rental or Mortgage assistance
- Includes utilities assistance
- 544 in queue to be served



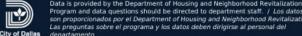


# **ESG** Assisted Map

- CARES funding serves up to 50% AMI
- Housed and at risk of homelessness
- Up to 6 months (recertification each 3 months)
- 48 clients served as of 8/3/2020, 25 in processing (projected to serve 100 clients)

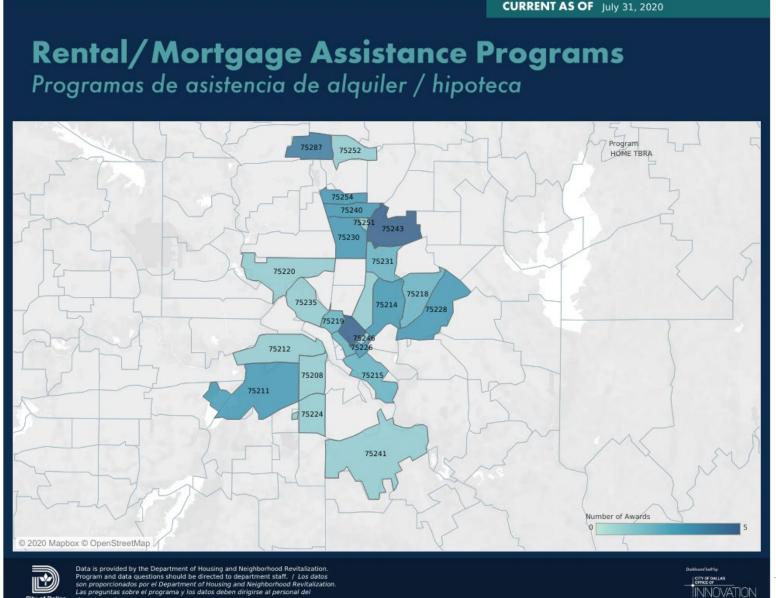




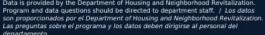


# **HOME TBRA Assisted Map**

- TBRA Tenant **Based Rental** Assistance
- Serves clients up to 80% AMI
- Supports tenants up to 12 months with casework and assistance
- 77 served, 42 in processing (project to serve 150 clients)







# Performance - HOPWA



- Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) / Short-Term Rental, Mortgage, and Utility (STRMU) Assistance (sometimes called Emergency Assistance)
  - HOPWA STRMU \$483,282
  - Up to 80% AMI, for clients impacted by HIV/AIDS
  - 85 clients served to date
  - Total of 275 applicants opted in/assigned for HOPWA consideration all have now been screened and all eligible clients have been served by caseworkers
  - Clients determined not HOPWA eligible were assigned to other programs where able
  - Program is now accepting additional client referrals



# Issues/Operational Concerns



- Supporting Information collection
  - Takes time to produce /gather /submit
- Staffing
  - Relies on humans to review supporting information
  - Final review and approvals needs technically trained staff from HOU & OCC
- Outreach and Registering Vendors
- Mail delivery time



# **CDBG** - Grantees



- Emergency Rental Assistance Program
  - \$1,000,000 Up to 3 months at \$1,500 a month
  - Jubilee Park & Community Center
  - Human Rights Initiative
  - United Way of Metropolitan Dallas
    - Catholic Charities of Dallas
    - CitySquare
    - Community Council of Greater Dallas
    - Harmony CDC
    - Jewish Family Service
    - Salvation Army



# **CARES Act HOU Grantees**



# Emergency Rental Assistance Program

- \$6,000,000 Up to 2 months at \$1,500 a month
- Dallas Housing Authority
- Human Rights Initiative
- Voice of Hope
- Refugee Services of Texas
- United Way of Metropolitan Dallas
  - Catholic Charities of Dallas
  - Metrocrest
  - Harmony CDC
  - The Wilkinson Center
  - Salvation Army

# CARES Act OCC Grantees



- Emergency Rental Assistance Program
  - \$3,500,000
- Requests for Applications opened July 7, 2020
- Contract negotiation in process
- CARES ESG (second allocation) funding procurement process under development



# Communications & Marketing



- Demand exceeds supply; ~\$3,000 advertising in multicultural outlets for Round 1 generated 10,000 applicants and the program closed in < 2 days</li>
- Knowing we couldn't serve as many, rather than mass advertising, grants for this round included marketing and outreach by each selected organization to the niche/affinity group through existing relationships
- COM will amplify messages for Dallas Housing Authority



# **Next Steps**



- Preparing for launch CARES Act grantees
- We invite you to share information on the grantees through your social media channels
- We will share with the Housing Policy Task Force and through City department newsletters



# Discussion



Thank you.





# Rental and Mortgage Assistance Program Update

Ad Hoc Committee on Economic Recovery and Assistance August 6, 2020

David Noguera, Director Housing & Neighborhood Revitalization

Jessica Galleshaw, Director Office of Community Care

Thor Erickson, CARES Act Manager, Housing & Neighborhood Revitalization





# Small Business Continuity Fund Update

Ad Hoc Covid-19 Committee August 6, 2020

# Presentation Overview



- Background/History
- Issues/ Operational or Business Concerns
- Operational Impact
- Proposed Action
- Next Steps



# Background/History



- City Council authorized on April 22, 2020 \$5 M in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding
  - \$2.5 M for loans
  - \$2.5 M for grants
- City entered into subrecipient agreement with Dallas Development Fund (DDF) to administer
  - DDF procured NDC as third-party administrator



# **Purpose**



- Provide update on SBCF funding and review recommended program changes to take advantage of more flexible Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF)
  - Council approved additional \$2 M in CRF funds



# **SBCF Status**



- Applications accepted May 4 to May 11
- Used lottery to rank applicants; notifications sent out May 22
  - Grant awards weighted to targeted areas
- 3906 responses received; 1054 qualified for grant lottery and 398 qualified for loan lottery
- First awards closed beginning of July;
  - Grants processing is faster than the loans





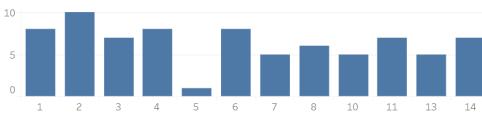


# **SBCF Status: Grants**

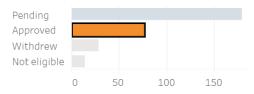
## SBCF Grant Program Summary 1054 businesses were entered into the lottery



### Council District



### **Award Status**



### Grant Awards

Amount Funded (\$)	599,400
Average Grant (\$)	7,784
Number Approved	77

### Targeted area [ businesses

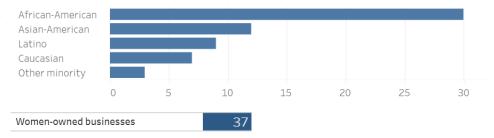


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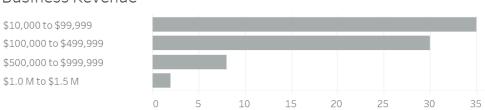
### Business Zip Code



### Business Owner Demographic Information

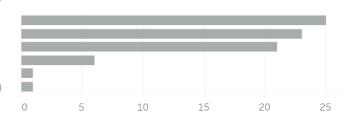


### **Business Revenue**



### **Business Structure**

S-Corporation Lmtd Liability Corp. (LLC) Sole proprietorship C-Corporation Lmtd Partnership (LP) Lmtd Liability Partnership (LLP)









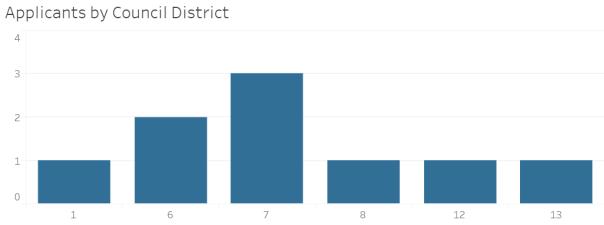


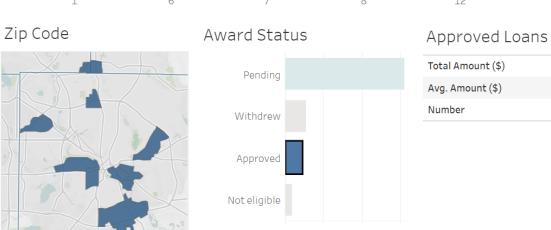
# **SBCF Status: Loans**

### SBCF Loan Program Summary

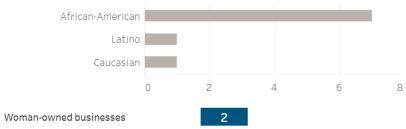
398 Applicants Qualified for the Lottery







### Business Owner Demographics



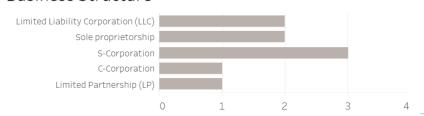
### Annual Business Revenue



### Business Structure

257,000

28,556





© Mapbox © OSM

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# Issues/Operational Concerns



- Built program from ground up
  - Time from council authorization to first disbursement about 10 weeks
- Verifying CDBG regulations are necessary but time consuming
- Many awardees did not have documents ready to go and records are at times inconsistent
- Fewer awardees qualify for maximum grant/loan amount than expected
  - Leads to higher volume of recipients

# **Proposed Action**



- Amend program statement so that CDBG requirements do not apply to CRF funding
  - Would use existing pipeline of applicants (700 remain on grant waiting list)



# **Next Steps**



- Council Action
  - Scheduled for Council approval on August 12





# Small Business Continuity Fund Update

Ad Hoc Covid-19 Committee
August 6





## City of Dallas

## Agenda Information Sheet

Monitoring and Enforcement of Current City Emergency Regulations and Executive and County Orders

[Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager, City Manager's Office]



# Monitoring and Enforcement of Current Emergency Regulations and Executive Orders

Ad Hoc Committee COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance August 6, 2020

> Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager Christopher Caso, City Attorney City of Dallas

## **Presentation Overview**



- 311 Call Center COVID-19 Operations
- COVID-19 311 Call Center Data
- 311 Call Center COVID-19 Operations Data
- COVID-19 Code Enforcement Data
- Park and Recreation Update
- Monitoring and Enforcement Priorities
- Emergency Regulations Litigation Update



# 311 Call Center COVID-19 Operations

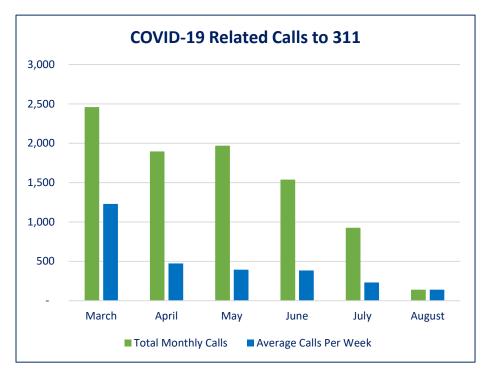


- 8,933 total resident calls related to COVID-19 since March
   13<sup>th</sup>
- 21,114 total emergency regulations violation service requests, including proactive service requests (SRs), since March 17<sup>th</sup>
- 592 total parks emergency regulations violation service requests since March 20<sup>th</sup>
- 311 continues to monitor current regulations in effect to ensure current SRs available are up to date



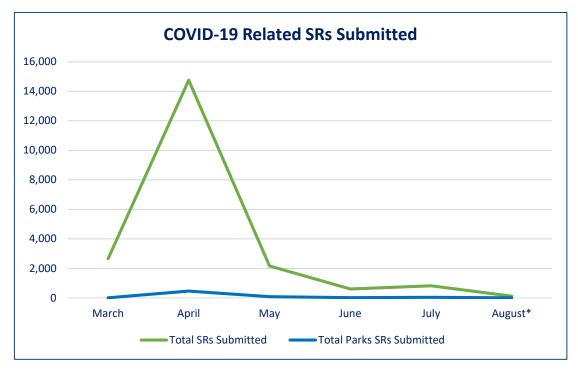
# COVID-19 311 Call Center Data





### **COVID-19 Call Data**

Month	Total Monthly Calls	Average Calls Per Week	
March	2,460	1,230	
April	1,896	474	
May	1,970	394	
June	1,540	385	
July	927 232		
August*	140	140	
Total COIVD-19 Calls To Date	8,933		



**COVID-19 Service Request Data** 

Month	Total SRs Submitted	Total Parks SRs Submitted				
March	2,649	5				
April	14,758	459				
May	2,165	79				
June	606	13				
July	820	34				
August*	116	2				
Total COIVD-19 SRs To Date	21,114	592				



## **COVID-19 Code Enforcement Data**



## **Code Compliance Services COVID-19 Special Task Force Inspections**

Month	311 Reactive	Proactive	Total for the Month	Total Citations for the Month
March	1,323	2,695	4,018	3
April	2,625	11,454	14,079	17
May	511	823	1,334	15
June	566	112	678	1
July	642	95	737	1
August	62	14	76	0
Total to Date	5,729	15,193	20,922	37



## **COVID-19 Code Enforcement Data**



- 15,193 of the cases regarding COVID-19 have been proactive
- 5,729 cases were called in (311 reactive)
- 6,145 Notices of Violation (NOV) have been issued. Out of those NOVs, only 30 locations required a citation to bring about compliance
- The vast majority of all cases have been related to nonposting of the AER



# Park and Recreation Update



- 311 Park Emergency Regulation Violations updated July 3, 2020 to easily file/track open amenity and large gatherings concerns
- Park Rangers monitoring for social distancing and large gatherings on open amenities such as basketball courts
- Play it Safe in Dallas Parks initiative launched
  - Public awareness campaign to promote responsibility and safety preparedness for those who visit Dallas parks



# Emergency Regulations Litigation Update/



# Summary of Governor Abbott's July 2020 Executive Orders ("GAs"), Proclamations, and Statements Related to COVID-19





- July 2, 2020
  - GA-28, issued on June 26, 2020, amended by proclamation (currently in effect).
    - Prohibits **outdoor** gatherings in excess of 10 people unless approved by the mayor or county judge.
    - This prohibition does not apply to:
      - Essential critical infrastructure workforce, religious services, local government operations, child-care services, youth camps, youth and adult recreational sports programs, or
      - 50 percent occupied sporting events, swimming pools, water parks, museums and libraries, zoos, aquariums, natural caverns, rodeos, equestrian events, and amusement parks.





- GA-28 continued.
  - Unless allowed specifically by GA-28, as amended, or the minimum standard health protocols, people cannot be in groups larger than 10 and must maintain six feet of social distancing from those not in their group.
- GA-29.
  - Subject to certain exceptions listed in the Order, GA-29 mandates the
    wearing of a face covering over the nose and mouth for every person
    in Texas when inside a commercial entity or other building or space
    open to the public, or when in an outdoor public space whenever it is
    not feasible to maintain six feet of social distancing.





- GA-29 continued.
  - On June 19, 2020, two weeks before the issuance of GA-29, Dallas County issued a Supplemental Order that requires commercial entities to create and implement health and safety policies that include a requirement for employees and visitors to wear face coverings.

## July 10, 2020

- Proclamation (in effect).
  - The Governor renewed the state-wide disaster proclamation.





## July 27, 2020

- Proclamation (in effect).
  - The governor suspended Election Code Section 85.001(a) to extend the early voting period from October 13, 2020 through the 4<sup>th</sup> day before election day (November 3, 2020), and suspended Election Code Section 86.006(a-1) to the extent necessary to allow a voter to deliver a marked mail ballot in person prior to and including on election day.





## • July 31, 2020

- Joint statement by the Governor, Lt. Governor, Speaker, Senate Education Chairman, and House Education Chairman on school re-openings.
  - Local health authorities do not have the blanket authority to preemptively close schools unless it is in response to contamination.
  - School districts alone, in consultation with local health authorities, have the statutory authority to preemptively close schools.
  - School districts have an 8-week transition period where they can provide remote/virtual classes without losing any state funding.
  - This joint statement is consistent with the Attorney General's letter dated July 28, 2020 and the Texas Education Agency's most recent guidelines.





# Monitoring and Enforcement of Current Emergency Regulations and Executive Orders

Ad Hoc Committee COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance August 6, 2020

> Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager Christopher Caso, City Attorney City of Dallas





## City of Dallas

1500 Marilla Street Dallas, Texas 75201

## Agenda Information Sheet

Equitable Health Access Update

- a. Transportation
- b. Food Access
- c. Face Covering Distribution
- d. Internet Access
- e. Eviction Support

[Liz Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion, City Manager's Office]

## Memorandum



DATE August 6, 2020

CITY OF DALLAS

TO Honorable Members of the Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance

## SUBJECT Update on City of Dallas Ongoing Efforts to Address COVID-19 Health Access Disparities

On Thursday May 28, 2020, Chair Thomas requested a special-called meeting as a follow-up from the Monday, May 11, 2020, Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee briefing where the Office of Equity and Office of Resilience addressed COVID-19 critical needs and equitable health access. During this meeting, it was requested that a monthly briefing memo with updates on the City of Dallas's continuous efforts be provided. The following information highlights the ongoing efforts to address COVID-19 health access disparities:

- Testing: In an effort to offer expanded testing capacity, PCCI identified COVID-19 "hotspots" and the City of Dallas, Dallas County, and the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) have opened an additional drive through testing site at Mountain View College, located in 75211. Planning is underway to open additional sites in hotspots, specifically in 75216 and the surrounding areas. TDEM also assisted in bringing a "testing blitz" to Paul Quinn College from July 25th to July 29th, during which 2,321 individuals were tested. Testing operations at the University of Dallas ceased on July 31st and were resumed on August 3rd at Eastfield College. Parkland supported walkup and drive through test sites continue to operate, with plans to open an additional test site at Los Barrios Unidos (Singleton). The City and County expect to enter a contract with Project Unity to begin supporting five additional testing sites. When these additional sites are brought online, our total weekly testing capability will increase from 15,420 to 17,870.
- Eviction Support: The Office of Fair Housing and Human Rights is developing COVID Evictions Legal Support to continue mitigation of evictions in the City of Dallas. The Eviction Assistance Initiative (EAI) is being established to provide legal support to prevent evictions and assist in preventing homelessness. The initiative will assist vulnerable Dallas tenants who are facing evictions and possible homelessness due to financial hardships brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Utilizing a Request for Applications (RFA), the City is seeking non-profit legal service organizations, law firms, or law school legal clinics to provide legal support and representation to residential tenants who may face loss of housing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The successful proposal will contain the elements of direct legal representation, counseling, training and education. The training and education component will include community wide webinars on Texas Landlord and Tenant laws and protections, as well as City of Dallas and federal eviction protections. The Counseling component will include mediation services to resolve issues with landlords including the assisting with the development of payment plans. CARES Act funding in the amount of \$500,000 will be utilized for this purpose.

#### Update on City of Dallas Ongoing Efforts to Address COVID-19 Health Access Disparities

- Face Covering Distribution: The Office of Resilience has prepared a second round of face covering distributions that includes touchless thermometers. The face covering packets include five single use face coverings and the information cards previously used. The touchless thermometers were a donation from the State of Texas to cities for distribution into the community. In collaboration with the Office of Emergency Management, it was decided that this round of distribution will focus on small businesses, Minority/Women Business Enterprises (M/WBE), religious organizations, and childcare facilities. A form was distributed with the assistance of Office of Community Care and Office of Business Diversity specific to childcare facilities and M/WBE, respectively.
- Community Outreach: Communications, Outreach, and Marketing (COM) created a
  bilingual COVID-19 resources utility bill insert for printed Dallas Water Utilities' August
  statements expected to reach more than 200,000 households and added the COVID-19
  resource phone number and website to all print and digital statements this month. The
  COVID-19 Outreach Toolkit was updated with new bilingual messages and graphics
  promoting the new Eastfield testing site. COM also increased the frequency of bilingual
  messaging and graphics via social media.
- **Food Security:** The Office of Innovation and the Food Equity Working Group are involved in a number of initiatives surrounding food equity:
  - "Safer at Home" Fresh Food Kits: The Office of Innovation is currently working with other City departments to develop and deploy fresh food kits that serve as resource boxes containing healthy food options. In the future, we are looking to include other items such as masks and hand sanitizer. These kits will be targeted toward highly impacted zip codes and high-risk individuals to help them avoid exposure to COVID-19 while seeking essential resources, as well as providing critical wellness supplies in a time of crisis.
  - COVID-19 Symptom Tracker North Texas Food Bank Fundraiser: The Office of Innovation recently launched a partnership with Citi to add a fundraising component to the COVID-19 Symptom Tracker. The Symptom Tracker is a survey tool that helps gather data about COVID-19 in Dallas over time and helps researchers to anticipate where critical resources might be needed. Citi is providing a matching donation for each completed survey response to provide meals through the North Texas Food Bank up to 15,000 meals total.
  - Food Insecurity Relief Request for Applications: The Office of Community Care, with input from the Office of Innovation, is in the process of releasing an RFA to seek proposals for contactless food delivery for COVID positive and vulnerable populations in Dallas using CARES Act funding.

#### Digital Divide:

- o Short-Term:
  - Cisco Donation/Demonstration Projects: The equipment is en route, and staff are currently working on finalizing the circuits for installation. Staff expects that the signal extenders to go live on August 21<sup>st</sup>. The Webex DX80 monitors that were donated to assist in facilitating telehealth will be

#### Update on City of Dallas Ongoing Efforts to Address COVID-19 Health Access Disparities

available for use once the libraries are opened to the public. There is no cost to the City for this project.

#### o Medium-Term

- Request for Application for Digital Navigators: The Office of Resilience is finalizing an RFA for Digital Navigators for non-profits to serve as subrecipients for the purpose of administering a Digital Navigators Program within the Dallas city limits to residents who have been impacted by COVID-19 and who are low income. Digital navigators provide individualized or small group assistance to the community who need affordable home internet service, affordable internet-capable devices, and/or coaching in introductory digital skills in order to become effective home internet users. Funding for this program is from the Coronavirus Relief Fund and must be expended by December 31, 2020.
- Chromebooks and Hotspots: The Office of Resilience, Dallas Public Library, Information Technology Services, and Dallas Park and Recreation are currently developing a plan to purchase Chromebooks to circulate through the library system and pair with hotspots with the intent to have them in circulation no later than end of September 2020. Funding for this purchase is from the Coronavirus Relief Fund and must be expended by December 31, 2020.
- Demonstration Projects Workshop: Staff conducted an internal workshop that included Resilience, Innovation, Transportation, and Public Works to ideate potential projects to bridge the digital divide with the criteria listed below. The list of projects is currently being developed by staff and will be finalized in the next two weeks; all of the items listed on this update have been included in the overall list.
  - Implementation Timeline
  - Project Cost
  - Funding Sources
  - Household Impact
  - Equity Locations

#### Long-Term

- Telecommunications Consultant: In conjunction with the Internet for All Coalition, staff is finalizing a contract to engage an independent telecommunications consultant to support the City and School District partners to conduct a technical feasibility study for developing a point-to-multipoint private cellular network to connect students in their homes. All viable solutions and options will be considered based on costs, performance, and sustainability to meet the needs of the City's residents and the District's students as each continue transitioning to remote working and distance learning. Staff anticipates bringing this item for City Council consideration during the August 26 City Council voting agenda. Initial funding for the consultant is from the Coronavirus Relief Fund and must be expended by December 31, 2020.
- Request for Developer Interest for Fiber Optic or Wireless Broadband Network: The City of Dallas is issuing a Request for Developer Interest (RDI) to attract highly qualified firms interested in entering into an Agreement to design and install fiber optic or wireless broadband network infrastructure at minimal and/or no cost to the City of Dallas by utilizing the

#### SUBJECT Update on City of Dallas Ongoing Efforts to Address COVID-19 Health Access Disparities

City's existing facilities (i.e. storm sewer, traffic signals, light poles, parks, buildings, public right-of way, and other city owned facilities) for internal City operations, with the possibility of allowing public access. The focus of the RDI will be to seek a design and implementation solution to utilize state of the art technology needed to meet the current and future technological needs allowing for the City of Dallas to utilize enhanced market opportunities. A fiber optic network or wireless broadband network distribution base stations need to be geographically designed to leverage existing City Assets as needed to circumference the City of Dallas' 386 square miles and having capabilities to achieve redundant coverage to end user nodes.

• Transportation Access: To enhance mobility options within the Inland port area, the North Central Texas Council of Governments has applied for the BUILD Grant to improve multimodal access and connectivity issues in and around the port. The Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development, or BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant program, provides an opportunity for the U.S. Department of Transportation to invest in road, rail, transit and port projects that promise to achieve national objectives. Previously known as Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, or TIGER Discretionary Grants, Congress has dedicated nearly \$7.9 billion for eleven rounds of National Infrastructure Investments to fund projects that have a significant local or regional impact.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions about these efforts.

M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira Chief of Equity and Inclusion

c: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Bilierae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizor Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager

Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant City Manager Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer Laila Alequresh, Chief Innovation Officer Directors and Assistant Directors



## City of Dallas

## Agenda Information Sheet

**File #:** 20-1466 **Item #:** E.

Upcoming Office of Community Care City Council Agenda Item for Childcare Providers Micro-Grant Program
[Jessica Galleshaw, Director, Office of Community Care]

## Memorandum



DATE July 31, 2020 CITY OF DALLAS

Honorable Members of the Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Economic Recovery and Assistance Committee

Upcoming Office of Community Care City Council Agenda Item for Childcare Providers Micro-Grant Program

The following Office of Community Care (OCC) item will be considered by City Council on the August 12, 2020 Agenda:

**File ID 20-1372:** Authorize (1) the Childcare Providers Micro-Grant Program for the childcare providers who have been adversely affected by the coronavirus pandemic; and (2) an Interlocal Agreement with Dallas County Local Workforce Development Board, Inc. DBA Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas to administer the Childcare Providers Micro-Grant Program, for the period of August 1, 2020 – December 30, 2020 - Not to exceed \$680,000.00 – Financing: U.S. Department of Treasury Coronavirus Relief Fund.

This interlocal agreement will allow the City of Dallas to partner with Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas to provide financial support to childcare providers within the city of Dallas who have been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This support is in an effort to support childcare providers who have lost substantial revenue and seen increased expenses as a result of COVID-19.

This item was a standing discussion topic for the Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Human and Social Recovery and Assistance, a discussion item during the special-called May 5, 2020 Quality of Life, Arts, & Culture Council Committee, and most recently, during the June 17, 2020 City Council Briefing.

#### **Background**

Eligible participants of this program will include childcare providers who have experienced loss of income, decreased enrollment and/or increased costs due to COVID-19. Participants must meet the following qualifications:

- Must be licensed with Texas Health and Human Services and be in good standing
- Must be physically located and operating in the City of Dallas, Texas
- Provider must have been in existence since October 1, 2019
- Must be current on taxes
- Currently providing childcare services to children
- Have experienced a loss of at least 25%, an increase of expenses of at least 25% or a combination of decreased revenue and increased expenses in an amount representing a 25% net impact on overall revenue versus expenditures AND/OR seen a decrease in enrollment of at least 25% since March 1, 2020

July 31, 2020

SUBJECT

DATE

## **Upcoming Office of Community Care City Council Agenda Item for Childcare Providers Micro-Grant Program**

- Cannot be a franchise
- Cannot have received a Personal Protection Loan
- Cannot have received assistance from the City's Small Business Continuity Program in an amount exceeding \$5,000.00. Assistance received from the City's Small Business Continuity Program, if less than \$5,000.00, will be deducted from the total award amount so that the provider does not receive more than \$5,000.00 total from both programs

There are currently 250 licensed childcare providers located in the city of Dallas. The target goal is to serve at least 136 providers with the \$680,000.00 budget.

Grants up to \$5,000.00 will be provided to childcare providers under this program, based on the individual need. The provider will be required to continue to be in operation for at least another three months after receiving assistance. Assistance will be administered via an online application process during one or more established application periods. If the number of applications received exceeds funding availability, funding will be administered using a lottery system. If the number of applications received is less than the total amount of funding available, the City may choose to do another application period in an attempt to reach more providers.

#### **Contractor**

Dallas County Local Workforce Development Board, Inc. DBA Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas ("Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas) is a non-profit organization and is the Local Workforce Development Board for Dallas County pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 791.003(4)(D). Funded by federal grants and private money, Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas is one of the largest non-profits in Dallas. Government funding sources have included, Texas Workforce Commission, the U.S. Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Agriculture and Education.

Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas uses its federal funding to provide workforce training, talent development, skills training, adult education, and English language skills. They also provide wraparound services to balance working and learning. Quality affordable childcare for working parents is a vital wraparound service. Childcare services are provided through a subsidy program via the ChildCareGroup, who is a non-profit leader in Early Childhood Education. Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas will work with ChildCareGroup to administer this program. This will allow the program to utilize an entity that already has extensive experience in this field.

#### **Budget**

The budget for this program is \$680,000.00 – funded under the U.S. Department of Treasury Coronavirus Relief Fund.

DATE July 31, 2020

## Upcoming Office of Community Care City Council Agenda Item for Childcare Providers Micro-Grant Program

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact myself or Jessica Galleshaw, Director of Office of Community Care.

Nadia Chandler Hardy Assistant City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
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