

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE September 9, 2022

Honorable Members of the Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee:

TO Jaynie Shultz (Chair), Casey Thomas (Vice- Chair), Jaime Resendez, Paula Blackmon, Jesse Moreno, Adam McGough, and Omar Narvaez

SUBJECT **Small Business Center Workforce Development Pilot Pre- Entry and Re-Entry Grants**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on the workforce pre-release and re-entry grants (Chance and Re-Entry Career Pathways) approved by City Council in December 2021.

These grants, supported by general funds and Texas Department of Criminal Justice for a combined total of \$1,000,000, will provide pre-release job readiness training and re-entry services for workforce training to formally incarcerated individuals that are currently on probation or parole. The workforce training will address the skill gaps in the Dallas labor market for transportation and construction workers. The focus will be on commercial driver's license and commercial construction industry credentials to meet industry requirements. In addition, job readiness services will be provided for those individuals who are currently incarcerated pending release in 3-6 months.

The grant solicitation opened April 2022 and closed June 2022 with five active vendor submissions who scored as follows:

Supplier	Total pts (out of 100)
Regional Black Contractors Association	98.33
Volunteers of America Texas	93.33
First Step Community Empowerment	90
Resilient Consulting, LLC	73.33
Zan Wesley Holmes, Jr. Community Outreach Center	68.33

Based upon the scores and service needs, the Small Business Center will be recommending the following applicants for funding for City Council action on September 28, 2022:

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Vendor	Amount	Services
Regional Black Contractors Association	\$500,000	Construction certificate training
Volunteers of America	\$250,000	Pre-release job readiness, life skills and financial literacy training
First Step Community Empowerment	\$250,000	On-the-Job basic construction and CDL training

Staff will be available during the Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee meeting on September 12, 2022, to respond to questions or provide additional information. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me or Joyce Williams, Director, Small Business Center at joyce.williams@dallas.gov.



Kimberly Bizar Tolbert
Deputy City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Jon Fortune, Deputy City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager
Dr. Robert Perez, Assistant City Manager
Carl Simpson, Assistant City Manager
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors