

# Memorandum



DATE August 28, 2020

CITY OF DALLAS

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

SUBJECT **Upcoming Office of Community Care Agenda Item on CARES Act Community Mental Health Program Contracts**

On June 24, 2020, the Dallas City Council allocated \$1M in CARES Act funding for Community Mental Health programs. The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic downturn have negatively impacted the mental health of our community and created new and exacerbated existing barriers to accessing care and support. A recent Kaiser Family Foundation poll showed that 45% of adults in the United States have reported that their mental health has been negatively impacted from stress caused by the virus and pandemic. Many of the public health measures aimed at mitigating spread are linked to isolation and other poor mental health outcomes.

The Office of Community Care (OCC) worked collaboratively with the Offices of Equity and Resilience to develop a Request for Applications (RFA) that would enable participation by diverse community organizations. The RFA sought organizations to implement two types of services (1) Access to mental health services for highly impacted, underserved populations, and communities of color and/or (2) Education and lay-person training aimed at breaking down stigma and increasing awareness of mental health issues, needs and available resources.

Specifically, the RFA sought programs targeting the following populations:

- Individuals living in communities with high prevalence of COVID-19
- Seniors (ages 60+)
- Households with adolescents and children
- Individuals who have been impacted by job loss or are otherwise income insecure due to COVID-19
- Populations identified by the Mayor's Taskforce on Poverty (Drivers of Poverty)
- Populations that have been historically underserved by mental and behavioral health programming (applicant should include research documenting the needs of their identified target population)
- Individuals residing in zip codes that have been identified as having high COVID impact / being high risk

OCC issued the RFA via Bonfire, conducting extensive outreach to more than 1,536 individuals and organizations through outreach via Bonfire enhanced by an outreach list developed by OCC. The solicitation had a total of 77 document takers and 17 organizations submitted completed application packets. These applications were reviewed and scored by a representatives from the Offices of Community Care, Equity and Resilience and the City awarded funding to 8 nonprofit organizations in an amount totaling \$1M. Funded organizations include Harmony Community Development Corporation, Brother Bill's Helping Hand, Abounding Prosperity, Inc., the Stewpot of First Presbyterian, Texas Health and Research Institute, Friendship West Baptist Church, Homeward Bound, Inc., and Youth 180, Inc.

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Date	Actions
July 28 <sup>th</sup>	RFA posted via Bonfire
July 28 <sup>th</sup>	Outreach – 1,536 emails via Bonfire to an expanded outreach list including OCC contacts
August 7 <sup>th</sup>	Vendor Questions due
August 14 <sup>th</sup>	RFA closed and submissions due
August 21 <sup>st</sup>	Application scoring completed
August 27 <sup>th</sup>	Notification of funding awards
August 27 – September 1 <sup>st</sup>	Contract Negotiations Subrecipient Training
September 9 <sup>th</sup>	City Council authorization of contracts

Agency	Ranking	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded
Harmony Community Development Corporation	1	\$168,934	\$152,200
Brother Bill's Helping Hands	2	\$25,000	\$22,000
Abounding Prosperity, Inc.	3	\$242,000	\$205,500
The Stewpot of First Presbyterian Church	4	\$60,286	\$48,229
Texas Health and Research Institute	5	\$200,098	\$158,300
Friendship West Baptist Church	6	\$290,500	\$228,000
Homeward Bound, Inc.	7	\$156,030	\$119,700
Youth 180, Inc.	8	\$87,419	\$66,071
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$1,000,000</b>

Each organization will implement mental health programming and services during the period of September 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, targeting one or more of the identified target populations.

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  
Chris Caso, City Attorney  
Mark Swann, City Auditor  
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
Kimberly Bizzor 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  
Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services  
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer  
Laila Alequresh, Chief Innovation Officer  
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion  
Directors and Assistant Directors