



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 20-1465, **Version:** 1

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**STRATEGIC PRIORITY:** Human and Social Needs

**AGENDA DATE:** October 13, 2020

**COUNCIL DISTRICT(S):** All

**DEPARTMENT:** Office of Community Care

**EXECUTIVE:** Kimberly Bizer Tolbert

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### **SUBJECT**

Authorize the first of two, one-year renewal options to the service contract with The Salvation Army A Georgia Corporation to provide services to individuals and families overcoming homelessness, addiction and poverty through the Overcoming Barriers to Work Program for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 - Not to exceed \$40,337.00, from \$40,337.00 to \$80,674.00 - Financing: 2020-21 Community Development Block Grant Fund

### **BACKGROUND**

The Overcoming Barriers to Work Program provides supportive services to address barriers to work. These barriers may include but are not limited to transportation, childcare, language, mental health resources and lack of wrap-around services. This program supports projects/programs that provide City of Dallas residents with skills and needed support to gain and maintain jobs that pay livable wages. The program specifically provides supportive services for individuals participating in job training/career development programs. Programming is offered to clients who meet Community Development Block Grant eligibility requirements of low- to moderate-income.

The Salvation Army, through their Carr P. Collins Social Service Center, provides prevention and recovery programs that are designed to assist those in varying stages of crisis by providing low barrier access to food, shelter, and supportive services to help end their crisis and begin a path to recovery. The majority of clients served in these programs have significant barriers to employment, including extensive criminal backgrounds, large employment history gaps, and transportation issues. To address these barriers, The Salvation Army provides one-on-one coaching and classroom job readiness services to assist clients with the development of skills needed to obtain and maintain employment, and/or advance in the workforce. Also, they provide transportation assistance (bus pass) and linkage to additional supportive services offered on and off site.

On October 23, 2019, City Council authorized a one-year service contract with two one-year renewal options for the Overcoming Barriers to Work Program with (1) Open Arms, Inc. dba Bryan's House in the amount of \$36,698.00, (2) International Rescue Committee, Inc. in the amount of \$76,833.00, and (3) The Salvation Army A Georgia Corporation in the amount of \$40,337.00, by Resolution No. 19-1657.

The Salvation Army A Georgia Corporation Performance Outcomes for FY 2019-20 are as follows:

<u>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</u>	<u>GOALS</u>	<u>AMENDED GOALS</u>	<u>OUTCOME (THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2020)</u>
• Total number enrolled in job readiness	180	125	138
• Total number of four-class courses taught	30	23	21
• Total number who complete the course	135	97	77
• Total number who receive work shoes/clothes	24	19	30
• Total number who receive transportation assistance	60	38	54
• Total number who obtain full-time employment	88	60	58
• Total number who maintain full-time employment for thirty days	66	30	16
• Average hourly wage for those employed	\$11.71/hr.	\$11.71/hr.	\$10.60/hr.

Due to COVID-19, The Salvation Army suspended all program services to individuals seeking services who did not reside in the facility. This included those attending job readiness classes and/or meeting with the employment specialist for one on one meetings. The secondary impact of COVID-19 limited the ability for clients to continue with seeking employment and/or losing employment due to businesses temporarily closing. The Salvation Army has seen a reduction in the number of clients who participate in job readiness services, and who obtain and maintain full time employment.

**PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (COUNCIL, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS)**

On October 23, 2019, City Council authorized a one-year service contract with two one-year renewal options for the Overcoming Barriers to Work Program with (1) Open Arms, Inc. dba Bryan's House in the amount of \$36,698.00, (2) International Rescue Committee, Inc. in the amount of \$76,833.00, and (3) The Salvation Army A Georgia Corporation in the amount of \$40,337.00, by Resolution No. 19-1657.

City Council was briefed by memorandum regarding this matter on October 2, 2020.

**FISCAL INFORMATION**

Fund	FY 2020	FY 2021	Future Years
2020-21 Community Development Block Grant Fund	\$40,337.00	\$40,337.00	\$0.00