



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 21-021A, Version: 1

Subject:

Ranking of firms and agreement with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul South Pinellas, Inc. d/b/a St. Vincent de Paul Cares for a direct service provider for the Rapid Rehousing Program.

Recommended Action:

Approval of the ranking of firms and agreement with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul South Pinellas, Inc. d/b/a St. Vincent de Paul Cares (SSVDP) for a direct service provider for the Rapid Rehousing Program (RRHDSP) under the Human Services Department.

- This contract provides a RRHDSP to provide case management and housing navigation for homeless County individuals and families.
- Human Services and SSVDP will continue partnering with the City of St. Petersburg, the Homeless Leadership Alliance of Pinellas, and the local Continuum of Care governing body.
- The SVDP was the only responsive proposal received and negotiations included budgetary adjustments to compensation and effective evaluation of caseloads. This is a very specialized service for homeless management and housing navigation.
- The agreement has a term of sixty months with a service start date of October 1, 2021.

Contract No. 21-0125-P(LN) for a total amount of \$2,943,000.00, effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2026. Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

Strategic Plan:

Ensure Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

2.1 Provide planning, coordination, prevention, and protective services to ensure a safe and secure community.

2.2 Be a facilitator, convener, and purchaser of services for those in need.

2.3 Provide comprehensive services to connect our veterans and dependents to the benefits they have earned.

2.4 Support programs that seek to prevent and remedy the causes of homelessness and move individuals and families from homelessness to permanent housing.

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

5.1 Maximize partner relationships and public outreach.

5.2 Be responsible stewards of the public's resources.

5.3 Ensure effective and efficient delivery of county services and support.

Summary:

This contract provides for case management, housing navigation, and support services to homeless County individuals and families in collaboration with Human Services, the City, the Homeless Leadership Alliance of Pinellas (HLA) and the local Continuum of Care (COC) governing body. All individual and family referrals will be identified through the HLA's Coordinated Entry System (CES).

Background Information:

The County and the City have agreed to partner in a collaborative RRH approach and will coordinate a shared pool of funding for RRH. In FY20, the program served 106 families and 123 individuals.

An RFP was released on February 3, 2021 resulting in one (1) responsive submittal. Staff reached out but were not able to locate additional firms to provide rapid rehousing services. Negotiations with SVDP centered around several factors including budgetary adjustments to compensation and effective evaluation of caseloads. The contract has a term of sixty (60) months beginning October 1, 2021.

Rapid Rehousing (RRH) is a Housing First intervention designed to help individuals and families to quickly exit homelessness and return to permanent housing. RRH assistance is offered without preconditions (such as employment, income, absence of criminal record, or sobriety) and the resources and services provided are tailored to the unique needs of the household. The program offers three (3) components:

- 1) Housing Identification utilizing the COC waitlist prioritizing certain populations, such as families with minor children.
- 2) Rent and Move-in Assistance including identifying and engaging landlords to develop sufficient affordable housing.
- 3) RRH Case Management and Services which include participation in meeting with Pinellas County, St. Petersburg, and the HLA to maintain clear policies and guidance for RRH within the community.

Fiscal Impact:

Total estimated expenditure not to exceed: \$2,943,000.00

This amount is included in the Human Services FY22 General Fund budget.

Staff Member Responsible:

Karen Yatchum, Director, Human Services

Merry Celeste, Division Director, Purchasing and Risk Management, Administrative Services

Joe Lauro, Director, Administrative Services

Partners:

City of St. Petersburg

Homeless Leadership Alliance of Pinellas, Inc.

211 Tampa Bay Cares, Inc.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul South Pinellas, Inc.

Attachments:

Services Agreement

Ranking Spreadsheet