



TO: Mayor Jim Gray  
Urban County Council

FROM: Polly Ruddick, Director, Office of Homelessness Prevention & Intervention

CC: Sally Hamilton, CAO

DATE: October 19, 2018

SUBJECT: Night Ambassadors Pilot Program Extension

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Request:

Authorization to: Execute an amendment to the agreement with Downtown Lexington Partnership (DLP) to operate a Night Ambassador Pilot Program. The amendment extends the operating period for an additional five (5) months. The amendment reduces the overall grant funding from \$101,000.00 to \$33,289.08. This program is to provide work-based earning opportunities for currently homeless individuals who would otherwise be unemployable due to barriers to employment.

Why are you requesting?

Department needs this action completed because: Lexington/Fayette County experiences a very low unemployment rate. The need for this program results from the situations wherein persons are traditionally unemployable due to employment history, past criminal activity, or are otherwise considered a risk for employers leading to a lack of income and continued homelessness. Results which are avoidable through the establishment of a 2<sup>nd</sup> chance employment program providing a stepping stone to long-term employment and in return long-term stable housing. The pilot program was funded for six months, ending October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Upon evaluation of the program to determine future sustainability funding; it was found that three (3) individuals had been extremely successful in this program and it was the request of the DLP and agreement of the Office of Homelessness to extend funding for these successful employees an additional five (5) months or as they can be hired as permanent employees by Block by Block. As a note, two (2) other night ambassadors have already been hired as permanent employees of Block by Block.

Due to the slow start-up implementation of this program, DLP has agreed to an extension of grant funding for five (5) months with a reduction in the grant award to \$33,289.08. Funds recaptured will be utilized by other programming within the Innovative and Sustainable Solutions to Ending Homelessness Fund.



What is the cost in this budget year and future budget years?

The cost for this FY 18 is: \$0

The cost for future FY 19 is: \$0

Are the funds budgeted?

The funds are budgeted or a budget amendment is in process: Yes

Account number: 1145-155003-0001-78112

File Number: 1142-18

Director/Commissioner: Polly Ruddick/Sally Hamilton, CAO

