

TO: LINDA GORTON, MAYOR
URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL

FROM: CHARLIE LANTER, COMMISSIONER
HOUSING ADVOCACY & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DATE: November 22, 2024

SUBJECT: Authorization to execute Purchase of Service Agreements with Legal Aid of the Bluegrass and Kentucky Equal Justice Center to provide housing stability services for tenants facing potential eviction.

Request: Council Authorization to execute Purchase of Service Agreements with Northern Kentucky Legal Aid Society, Inc. (dba Legal Aid of the Bluegrass) and Office of Kentucky Legal Services Programs, Inc. (dba Kentucky Equal Justice Center) and allocate funds not to exceed \$500,000.00 for the provision of housing stability services through the Housing Stabilization Program for tenants facing potential eviction.

Purpose of Request: The Department of Housing Advocacy and Community Development seeks to invest in sustainable housing stability services to help the most vulnerable residents of Lexington, who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, find long-term housing stability. Council has allocated from the FY24 fund balance additional funding to continue the Housing Stability Services component of the Housing Stabilization Program, including the eviction diversion mediation program operated by Legal Aid. Subject to Council's approval, this funding will allow Legal Aid of the Bluegrass and Kentucky Equal Justice Center to continue offering housing stability services through at least June 30, 2025, or until all funds are expended no later than December 31, 2025.

The agreements will be for a fixed term, beginning on January 1, 2025, and ending on December 31, 2025 and extend the programs awarded under RFP #12-2023.

What is the cost in this budget year and future budget years? Funds were allocated by Council from the FY24 fund balance.

Are the funds budgeted? Budget Amendment is in progress.

File Number:

Director/Commissioner: Wright/Lanter