



**TO: LINDA GORTON, MAYOR  
URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL**

**FROM: CHARLIE LANTER, COMMISSIONER  
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING ADVOCACY & COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT**

**DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2023**

**SUBJECT: Extension of Day Center Hours; Restrooms & Shaded Space For Unhoused**

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**Request:** Council authorization to execute an agreement with the New Life Day Center, Inc. for operating costs and one-time capital improvements in the amount of \$154,959. This funding will allow New Life Day Center to extend weekday hours and allow for several outdoor improvements including a shaded space, water filling station, and portable hand washing station and toilets.

**Purpose of Request:** On the evening of the 2023 Point-in-Time Count, 38 individuals were found to be experiencing unsheltered homelessness with approximately 180 additional persons at risk of experiencing unsheltered homelessness being sheltered with seasonal resources. Additionally, many residents of overnight emergency shelters leave shelters during daytime hours. Persons experiencing homelessness lack dedicated spaces to congregate, access services, meet basic needs, and escape inclement weather.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the New Life Day Center, Lexington's primary day center for those experiencing homelessness, reduced weekday hours from 8:00am – 4:30pm to 8:00am – 12:30pm. Operating hours remain reduced to present. This reduction further limits available daytime spaces for this population. This funding would allow New Life to restore its operating to 8:00am – 4:30pm.

Additionally, persons experiencing homelessness lack publicly accessible facilities to meet needs such as shelter from inclement weather and restrooms. This can lead to unsafe and unsanitary conditions both for those unhoused and the communities in which they reside. New Life will utilize capital funds to complete several outdoor improvements, including the creation of a shaded space through an addition of a roof to the patio and installation of picnic tables, benches, trash receptacles, planters, and a water filling station. New Life will also add two portable toilets (one standard, one handicapped accessible) and a portable hand washing station; restrooms would be available after hours (including security).

**What is the Cost in this budget year and future budget years?** Cost in FY24 is \$154,959.  
The cost for future FY25 is: \$0

**Are the funds budgeted?** Funds are partially budgeted; BA in process for remainder  
Account numbers: 1101-900343-0001-71101 (\$79,405; budgeted)  
1145-155003-0001-78112 (\$75,554; BA in process)



MAYOR LINDA GORTON



**LEXINGTON**

CHARLIE LANTER  
COMMISSIONER  
HOUSING ADVOCACY & COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT

**File Number: 0960-23**

**Director/Commissioner: Herron/Lanter**

