

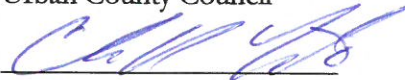


Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government
OFFICE OF HOMELESSNESS
PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

Jim Gray
Mayor

Charlie Lanter
Director

To: Mayor Jim Gray
Urban County Council

From: 
Charlie Lanter, Director, OHPI

Date: April 2, 2015

Re: Dining With Dignity Project

This is to request Council authorization to execute an agreement with Lighthouse Ministries for the Dining with Dignity Project.

Lighthouse Ministries plans to expand its regular daytime free lunch program for people with low-incomes and those who are homeless into a larger facility at 190 Spruce Street (adjacent to their current location at 185 Elm Tree Lane). This expansion results in a dining facility with seating for 190 people and includes a full commercial kitchen on site. The space would otherwise be vacant and unused most evenings.

In exchange for a one-time LFUCG investment of \$67,657 toward renovation expenses, Lighthouse Ministries has agreed to operate the Dining with Dignity program in this space for at least three years. Lighthouse will make the space available 365 nights each year to groups/organizations wishing to serve meals to people who are homeless and low-income. Lighthouse staff members will administer scheduling, building access, administering donated funds and food, health code compliance, and program promotions. The Office of Homelessness will assist with program promotion and recruiting organizations to serve meals.

The goal of this project is to consolidate as many scattered nightly meal service programs as possible, including meals served in parks and other public spaces, into this one facility. The result should be a more pleasant and consistent dining experience for those in need and a better coordinated effort to serve among churches, organizations, and individuals wishing to help.

The attached agreement includes phase-in dates for startup of the program. Lighthouse will submit monthly reports to the Office of Homelessness for tracking utilization of the facility. Funds are budgeted in the Innovative & Sustainable Solutions to Homelessness Fund and the project has been recommended for funding by the Homelessness Prevention & Intervention Board.