

MAYOR JIM GRAY



**LEXINGTON**

CHRIS FORD  
COMMISSIONER  
SOCIAL SERVICES

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

### I. Community Partnership and History of Collaboration

The MOU signatory organizations, **the Domestic Violence Prevention Board (DVPB)**, a program of the **Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government's Department of Social Services**, and **Ampersand Sexual Violence Resource Center** (previously Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center), have a long-standing collaborative relationship and a shared vision about the importance of an interagency approach to safety and protection of victims of domestic and dating violence, sexual violence, and stalking. Ampersand is a member of the DVPB and regularly attends quarterly meetings, serves on multi-disciplinary groups focused on intimate partner violence, actively participates in planning and attending trainings and events, and has collaborated on many past grants submitted by LFUCG.

### II. Description of Partner Agencies

**Lexington Fayette Urban County Government (LFUCG):** LFUCG is dedicated to providing a high quality of life to its residents and that includes ensuring that all residents remain safe, both in and outside of their homes. The city's commitment to serving residents is demonstrated by its support of the social service sector and in the establishment and operation of programs that provide services to victims of **domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking (IPV)** and their children.



**Domestic Violence Prevention Board (DVPB):** The DVPB, housed in the LFUCG Department of Social Services, was created in 1986 by local ordinance in response to a United Way of the Bluegrass study group, chaired by a former director of the local domestic violence shelter, which recommended the establishment of a local council to coordinate a broad-based community effort aimed at preventing IPV. Since its inception the DVPB has provided a community forum for interagency communication, coordination and accountability, program development, professional education, and public awareness. The DVPB continually assesses the quality, availability, and accessibility of DV services and protections in the community and develops strategies, interventions, and programs to address problems and deficits.

**Ampersand Sexual Violence Resource Center:** Ampersand Sexual Violence Resource Center was formed as the Rape Crisis Task Force in 1971, incorporated as the Lexington Rape Crisis Center in 1974, and renamed Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center in 1998. In 2018 BRCC rebranded as Ampersand Sexual Violence Resource Center. Ampersand serves the entire Bluegrass Area Development District (Bluegrass ADD), a 17-county area in Central KY, and provides 24 hour crisis counseling, medical and hospital advocacy, legal advocacy and individual and group counseling services. Ampersand has participated on the DVPB since its inception.

### **III. Commitment of Project Partners**

LFUCG Department of Social Services will serve as the applicant for this grant and will be responsible for its programmatic and financial management and reporting. LFUCG's Division of Grants and Special Programs has responsibility for the planning, administration, coordination, and regulatory oversight for all state, federal, and foundation grants applied for and awarded to



LFUCG. This centralized approach to grants management assures compliance with performance, timeframe, and programmatic goals and audit regulations.

**The Domestic Violence Program Coordinator, working with the Domestic Violence Prevention Board will:**

- Continue to serve as the overarching agency that establishes the relationship among the IPV organizations including service providers, law enforcement, and the justice system
- Monitor the programmatic elements of the project to determine the program is operating in compliance with federal regulations, with the approved application, and with its own standards and protocols
- Assist with project implementation through the scheduling and facilitation of meetings
- Oversee and advise on the progress of the two hired Resource Liaisons, their community connections, outreach efforts, referrals made, and presentation quality
- Oversee the implementation of the housing stability program for rent/mortgage assistance

**Ampersand Sexual Violence Resource Center will:**

- Collaborate with DVPB to conduct outreach to agencies serving vulnerable populations (e.g. LEP, immigrant/refugee, people with disabilities, LGBTQI, etc.) and assist in the development of informational materials related to outreach
- Provide referrals for the housing stability assistance program
- Continue to participate in the quarterly meetings, subcommittee meetings, and events organized by DVPB.



#### **IV. Resources Contributed by Partners**

LFUCG Division of Grants and Special Programs will provide in-kind staff time for fiscal oversight of the grant and preparation and submission of all financial reporting forms.

LFUCG's Department of Social Services, which includes the Domestic Violence Prevention Board, will contribute in-kind staff time to oversee the work of the RLs. The DVPB Program Coordinator will devote time for oversight of all programmatic aspects of the grant and facilitate related meetings and committees.



**APPROVAL**

We, the undersigned, have read and agree with this Memorandum of Understanding. Further, we have reviewed the portion of the proposed budget pertaining to the collaborative effort described here, and approve it.

By: Jim Gray JUL 26 2018  
Jim Gray Date  
Mayor  
Lexington-Fayette Urban County  
Government

By: M. E. Kobes 7/26/18  
M. E. Kobes Date  
Director  
Ampersand Sexual Violence Resource  
Center

By: Stephanie Theakston 7/26/18  
Stephanie Theakston Date  
DV Program Coordinator  
Domestic Violence Prevention Board