

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 **GreenHouse17**, 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.

The collaborative relationship between GreenHouse17, then known as the spouse abuse shelter, and the DVPB was initially formalized 30 years ago when the DVPB was created by local ordinance as Fayette County's interagency coordinating council on domestic violence, child abuse, stalking, and sexual assault. Since that time, staff of GreenHouse17 have served on DVPB's Executive Committee, chaired standing committees, served on multi-disciplinary groups focused on intimate partner violence, actively participated in planning and attending trainings and events, and 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.

GreenHouse17 (GH17): The first domestic violence shelter was established by the Young Women's Christian Association of Lexington in May 1979 and operated until June 30, 2004, when it was closed due to loss of funding. On July 1, 2004 the statewide coalition of shelters, now the Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence (KCADV), in collaboration with community agencies, initiated a new shelter (in a temporary facility) in Lexington which became the Bluegrass Domestic Violence Program, later renamed as GreenHouse17. In February 2005 GH17 gained 501(c)(3) status and became an autonomous nonprofit agency. GH17 moved to its current facility, situated on a beautiful 40-acre property, in July 2005. GH17 serves the entire Bluegrass Area Development District (Bluegrass ADD), a 17-county area in Central KY, and provides 24 hour crisis counseling, emergency shelter, advocacy and support, individual and group support, supportive housing services, transportation assistance, and a comprehensive array of other services. GH17 has created a farm on its property and has become nationally and internationally known for the development of trauma-informed programming involving the farm. GH17 has a contractual relationship with LFUCG as a social service agency providing necessary community services.

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

Greenhouse17 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
- Participate in the planning and presentation of trainings associated with this project for community partners and service providers
- 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.

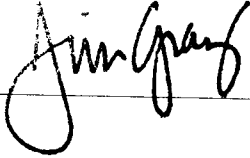



GreenHouse17 will provide in-kind staff time to attend programmatic meetings related to the work of the RLs and other grant-related projects. GreenHouse17 staff has been trained in the Green Dot method and will provide guidance with presentations and community relationships.




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

By:  7-24-18
Darlene Thomas Date
Executive Director
GreenHouse17

By:  7/24/18
Stephanie Theakston Date
DV Program Coordinator
Domestic Violence Prevention Board