

TO: LINDA GORTON, MAYOR
URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL

FROM: CHARLIE LANTER, COMMISSIONER
HOUSING ADVOCACY & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DATE: February 26, 2023

SUBJECT: Authorization to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with Goodwill Industries of Kentucky, Inc. to provide housing stability services and pay rent assistance on behalf of eligible families referred by the McKinney Vento Homeless Office of Fayette County Public Schools

Request: Council authorization to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with Goodwill Industries of Kentucky, Inc. (Goodwill) and allocate funds not to exceed \$400,000.00 for the provision of housing stability services and payment of rent and security deposit assistance on behalf of eligible families referred to Goodwill by the McKinney Vento Homeless Office of Fayette County Public Schools.

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. At Council's request, the Department has negotiated a partnership with Goodwill to provide for payment of security deposits and first months' rent on behalf of homeless families with children enrolled in Fayette County Public Schools. Subject to Council's approval, this new program will be funded by interest earned from the Housing Stabilization Program's federal Emergency Rental Assistance grant.

The agreement with Goodwill will be for a fixed term, beginning on March 1, 2024, and ending on June 30, 2025.

What is the cost in this budget year and future budget years? The allocation not to exceed \$400,000.00 in the proposed agreement with Goodwill anticipates utilizing interest earned from the Housing Stabilization Program's federal Emergency Rental assistance grant. Upon Council's approval, an initial allocation of \$150,000.00 will be made to Goodwill for FY24, with a further allocation anticipated in FY25, subject to Council's approval at that time.

Are the funds budgeted? A budget amendment is in progress.

File Number: 0232-24

Director/Commissioner: Wright/Lanter