

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: May 18, 2021

Consent [] Regular
 Ordinance [] Public Hearing

Department

Submitted By: Community Services Department

Submitted For: Division of Human Services

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to approve: Contracts for Provision of Services with the below-listed agencies for the two-year (2) period October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2022, in an amount not-to-exceed \$388,576, to provide emergency shelter, stipends and supplies to homeless participants in the Parks to Work (P2W) Program:

A) The Salvation Army, in an amount not-to-exceed \$218,400, of which \$109,200 is budgeted for FY 2021, with an anticipated annual allocation of \$109,200 in FY 2022, contingent upon a budgetary appropriation by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC), for the term of the contract, to provide emergency shelter to homeless participants in the P2W Program; and

B) The Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County, Inc., in an amount not-to-exceed \$170,176, of which \$85,088 is budgeted for FY 2021, with an anticipated annual allocation of \$85,088 in FY 2022, contingent upon a budgetary appropriation by the BCC, for the term of the contract, to provide stipends and supplies to homeless participants in the P2W Program.

Summary: The P2W Program assists individuals who have been homeless for extended periods of time, with medical, substance use, and mental health issues in Palm Beach County parks. The finalization of the contracts was delayed due to competing staff assignments and an extended review of the agencies scope of work and budget. The Salvation Army requires that all negotiations or changes go through their national headquarters before they can be approved. Clients are often unemployable by mainstream employers. The P2W Program provides shelter, case management, employment assistance, and rapid re-housing or permanent supportive housing placement assistance. Since the inception of the program on February 12, 2018, 60 individuals participated in the P2W Program. Currently, 32% of the participants are housed through emergency shelter and/or supportive housing. One hundred percent (100%) of the individuals who participated in the program received mainstream intensive case management, which includes medical care, treatment for substance use disorder, mental health and behavioral health services, vocational and employment skills training, and financial education. Twenty-seven percent (27%) of the participants have maintained full-time employment outside of the P2W Program. Thirty percent (30%) of P2W participants maintained housing by successfully completing the P2W and rapid re-housing programs. Through the P2W Program, The Salvation Army will provide emergency shelter per night, for nine (9) homeless participants who are referred from the Palm Beach County Human Services Homeless Outreach Programs or any homeless outreach effort. The Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County, Inc. will provide approximately nine (9) program participants with weekly stipends based on hours worked, as well as equipment and supplies. Each program participant will earn \$10 an hour for six (6) hours per day, five (5) days per week, for a total of 22 weeks. Uwe Naujak, an employee of The Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County, Inc., is a member of the Homeless Advisory Board (HAB). The HAB provides no regulation, oversight, management, or policy-setting recommendation regarding the subject contracts or transactions. Disclosure of these contractual relationships at a duly noticed public meeting is being provided in accordance with the provisions of Section 2-443, of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics. (Division of Human Services) Countywide (HH)

Background and Justification: The Division of Human Services coordinates homeless outreach efforts throughout Palm Beach County, including those efforts that target County parks. Several initiatives have been implemented, including the P2W Program and the Assertive County Outreach Team, in an effort to engage and house homeless individuals. Participants of the P2W Program will provide the general park maintenance service for an hourly wage. The availability of emergency shelter is an important aspect of outreach, particularly when the individuals have expressed a desire to engage in services. Funded agencies are monitored by the Community Services Department to maintain programmatic and fiscal accountability. Contracts include the following safeguards to protect the County: insurance coverage is mandatory, funds are paid out on a unit cost basis, and funds cannot be used to initiate or to pursue litigation against the County.

Attachment: Contracts for Provision of Services (2)

DocuSigned by:
James Green 4/21/2021
Recommended By: James Green Date
Department Director
Nancy L. Bolton 4/29/21
Approved By: Nancy L. Bolton Date
Assistant County Administrator

