

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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Bill Type and Number: 2021-153

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council President at the request of the Mayor

Date of Introduction: March 9, 2021

Committee(s) of Reference: NCSPHS, F, R

Date of Analysis: March 9, 2021

Type of Action: Appropriation, Procurement Code exception, agreement authorization, designation of oversight agency and emergency passage upon introduction

Bill Summary: This bill is an appropriation of \$6,011,963 of Emergency Solutions Grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development authorized by the CARES Act, \$5,715,000 will be disbursed to Changing Homelessness, Inc. for services and \$296,963 will be retained by the City to cover administrative costs incurred by the Housing and Community Development Division for program administration. The bill invokes the exception to Section 126.107(g) *Ordinance Code* to procure the use of the professional services of Changing Homelessness, Inc. The agreement with Changing Homelessness is authorized and the Housing and Community Development Division, Neighborhoods Department will provide oversight of expenditures. Changing Homelessness will comply with all CARES Act grant requirements, including audit requirements. Emergency passage upon introduction is requested because the negative economic impacts of COVID-19 are ongoing and immediate assistance is needed to ensure eligible individuals and families have access to shelter, COVID-19 testing, and other homelessness prevention services.

Background Information: The purpose of this legislation is to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 among individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homelessness assistance, and to support additional homeless assistance and homelessness prevention activities to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19. The funds will provide rapid rehousing services, including acquisition of non-congregate shelter space (hotel rooms), and COVID-19 testing services for eligible recipients and for acquisition of shelter equipment and supplies. These funds may also be used to cover or reimburse allowable costs incurred by the City. Changing Homelessness' scope of work includes: test and/or vaccinate a minimum of 150 homeless persons and/or homeless agency staff; provide allowable rapid rehousing services, as needed, to move 250 homeless individuals into permanent housing; contract with hotels to provide rooms for 250 medically vulnerable homeless persons to socially distance; provide storage facilities and necessary equipment to emergency homeless shelters; and supportive services for the existing Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) database and coordinated entry.

Policy Impact Area: COVID-19 and homelessness prevention services

Fiscal Impact: \$6,011,963 of Emergency Solutions Grant funds, as initiated by B.T. 21-045. No City match is required.

Analyst: Hampsey