
Homeless Services Advisory Committee Community Capacity Building Subcommittee

Date: March 23, 2022

Item: AOC7 Funding Application for Mayor's Fund to End Homelessness

Staff Analysis:

Staff have reviewed the proposal submitted by AOC7 Neighborhood Organization on March 7, 2022 by Mary Simmons.

AOC7 (Anaheim, Orange, Cherry, 7th Street) is a non-profit organization focused on advocating and providing services for their neighborhood. Their work focuses on issues such as public safety, neighborhood cleanups, children's literacy, food insecurity, unhoused people, and mobile vaccination clinics.

Their proposal is applying for funding to support Project Dignity, which involves outreach to people experiencing homelessness at MacArthur Park and Mark Twain Library on a weekly basis. A collaborative effort between several non-profit organizations, this project focuses on providing services and resources (such as food, clothing, and PPE), building relationships, and connecting individuals with Homeless Services and the MSC. They have been serving 30-40 people on a weekly basis. The project proposal requests \$5,000 towards food, socks, shoes, sleeping bags, hygiene kits, and bus passes for distribution during these outreach efforts.

The proposal fits the intent of the Mayor's Fund to End Homelessness. Relationship-building is an important component of overcoming barriers to accessing services, and supplies such as food and clothing help mitigate the negative impacts of living on the streets. City staff requested additional clarification from AOC7, which is included below.

As of February 28, 2022, the Mayor's Fund to End Homelessness has a balance of \$130,023.08, with \$124,835.08 available after previous awards. This proposal would represent 8.1% of the remaining available funds.

Clarifying Questions via E-mail:

1) Regarding your Budget Proposal, can you list the number of items that you will be purchasing per week for distribution? For example, how many socks, shoes, sleeping bags, and hygiene kits will be purchased?

- Shoe budget \$200 per week - 3-4 pairs of shoes approx \$40-50 each
- Socks - 9 packs of socks (12 pack) at \$10.00 each
- 5 sleeping bags at \$60 each
- 96 hygiene kits 12 pieces bulk \$168.

2) I noticed that AOC7 is the applicant, but the 501c3 documentation lists Partners of Parks. Could you clarify the relationship between AOC7 and Partners of Parks? Any funds issued by the Mayor's Fund must be to a nonprofit organization.

"Partners of Parks is a 501c3 nonprofit organization and is AOC7's Fiscal Sponsor."

3) Could you clarify how Project Dignity seeks to connect folks experiencing homelessness with the larger Homeless Services system in Long Beach?

"Project Dignity is a coalition of neighbors and community-based organizations in Long Beach, California who are committed to providing dignity to our unhoused neighbors. We support transitional environments to stabilize people and establish pathways to permanent housing through continued assistance and programs. We believe the best recovery pathway is one that an individual is willing to pursue and we seek to hold space without judgment for those not ready to choose a pathway. Establishing collaborative processes within the community reaches people where they are with resources, navigation, support, and social connection.

Resources we have collaborated with Multi-Service Center, Homeless Services, Healthcare in Action, Street Medicine, Beacon for Him, PECC, American Family Housing, Destiny Church and so many other community partners that have provided resources on Mondays Matter.

[\(20+\) Facebook](#) photos of the previous Monday 3/7/22

This Past Monday on 3/14 [\(15\) Facebook](#)"

4) For the advance payment request, we are seeking to understand the necessity for your organization and project to receive advance payment, as opposed to receiving funding on a cost-reimbursement basis. Could you clarify why this project/your organization would require advance payment?

"We are a small grassroots organization with limited funds. The needs of our unhoused neighbors are immediate needs."