

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE February 17, 2017

TO Housing Committee Members: Scott Griggs, Chair, Carolyn King Arnold, Vice-Chair, Mayor Pro-Tem Monica R. Alonzo, Tiffinni A. Young, Mark Clayton, and Casey Thomas, II

SUBJECT Gateway to Permanent Supportive Housing Program

On Tuesday, February 21, 2017, you will be briefed on the Gateway to Permanent Supportive Housing Program. A copy of the briefing is attached.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan E. Sims'.

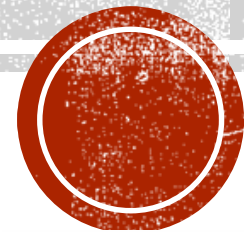
Alan E. Sims
Chief of Neighborhood Plus

c: The Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
Larry Casto, City Attorney
Craig Kinton, City Auditor
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Mark McDaniel, Acting First Assistant City Manager
Eric D. Campbell, Assistant City Manager
Jill A. Jordan, P. E., Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
Sana Syed, Public Information Officer
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor and Council
Directors and Assistant Directors

GATEWAY TO PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROGRAM

Briefing to the Housing Committee

February 21, 2017



PURPOSE



- Provide an overview of the Gateway to Permanent Supportive Housing Program
 - Continuum of Care (CoC) grant
 - Services Provided
 - Clients
 - Successes
 - Challenges

GRANT FUNDS

- Continuum of Care Grant Funds are competitively awarded through the Department of Housing & Urban Development
- Funds are intended to be used to provide permanent housing and case management services to chronically homeless adults
 - Defined as homeless for an extended period time with a disabling physical or mental health condition
- City of Dallas Award
 - City has received these funds since 2008
 - Award for this year \$802,120
 - Contract Term: 10/1/2016 to 9/30/2017
 - Match requirement is 25% of the grant



SERVICES

- Services for clients include:
 - Caseworkers facilitate individualized plans with clients
 - Clients are connected with resources based on individualized plans
 - Weekly living skill classes in groups on-site
 - At least one home visit each month by caseworker
 - Monthly office visits between caseworker and client
 - Monthly resident meetings with all program clients

OTHER PROGRAM ELEMENTS

- Leases are between the Client and the Landlord
 - Caseworkers serve as liaisons and attend monthly partner meetings with property management staff
- Rental Assistance Payment agreements are executed between the Participant, Landlord, and the City of Dallas
 - Clients with income must pay 30% of the monthly rent
 - Unit rents must be reasonable with similar units in the area and consistent with what Landlord charges to other market rate tenants for the same unit

CLIENT DETAILS

- Based on FY15-16 program
 - Total number of single adult households served: 77
 - 79% male, 21% female; majority are 45+ (68 participants)
 - Total number of leavers from program: 13
 - Physical and mental health conditions at entry: 77
 - Domestic violence experience: 4
 - Veteran Status: 6
 - Income Status: 45, no income; 32 w/ income
 - 51 in the program for at least 2 years, includes 22 who have been in the program for 5+ years
 - Only 2 in the program less than a year



SUCCESS STORIES

Client A came to our program in 2009 from a local shelter with a history of substance abuse and a criminal background. As a result, she was disconnected from her children and her family. After participating in the program, client A, who had outstanding legal issues, was encouraged to turn herself in because it was the right thing.

This major step resulted in client A redeveloping relationships with her family, maintain her sobriety for 8 years plus, and she is now in the Honor Society at El Centro with a 4.0 GPA

SUCCESS STORIES

Client B, a former homeless veteran, became a program participant in March 2016 after residing in a “tent city”. Mr. B is an elderly male who had been unsheltered for three years and was a leader at the first large encampment. It was a difficult decision for Mr. B to leave that community because so many people looked up to him and he had friends.

He accepted the invitation to be part of the Gateway Program and has maintained housing for 11 months. Everyday is a success when he doesn't take a drink of alcohol. He has also redeveloped a relationship with his 89 year old father and they go fishing regularly now.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS TO SUCCESS



- Supportive relationships with caseworker
- Accountability provided from staff and peers to achieve established goals
- Opportunities to celebrate what some may consider as “small” accomplishments
- Clients benefit from the caseworkers’ network of professional relationships
- Reestablishment of housing stability despite their background and rental history
- The client’s **WILL** to plan and contribute to their destiny because of their **GRATITUDE** for a second chance

CHALLENGES

- Clients do not meet standard application criteria
- Nearby residents aren't always in support of formerly homeless programs in their neighborhood
- Finding properties that have the capacity and willingness to participate with a homeless program
- Additional funding specifically for permanent housing with wrap around case management





QUESTIONS

