

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE June 12, 2020

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Upcoming Office of Community Care City Council June 24, 2020 Agenda Item #42 for the TDCJ Re-Entry Services Pilot Program**

The following Office of Community Care (OCC) item will be considered by City Council on the June 24, 2020 Agenda:

**Agenda Item #42:** Authorize a two-year service contract to provide support services for previously incarcerated persons attempting to re-enter the workforce for the Office of Community Care - Regional Black Contractors Association of North Texas, Inc., most advantageous proposer of six - Not to exceed \$500,000 - Financing: Texas Department of Criminal Justice Grant Funds (subject to annual appropriations)

This service contract with Regional Black Contractors Association of North Texas, Inc. provides comprehensive support services for previously incarcerated persons who have re-entered the community and desire gainful employment in Dallas. The contract is funded in its entirety by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) and appropriated by the State legislature specifically for this purpose.

This project was planned pre-COVID-19 and the Request for Proposal was released before COVID's impact. In consideration of the circumstances for potential nonprofit applicants once City and County wide Shelter in Place orders came into effect, the City extended the application period to ensure organizations interested in pursuing the funding would have the opportunity to submit a competitive application.

## **Background**

The Re-Entry Services Pilot Program was established during the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas State Legislative Session with the appropriation of a total of \$500,000 to TDCJ to enter into an agreement with the City of Dallas to operate a pilot program to provide re-entry services to individuals released from TDCJ facilities. The Workforce, Education and Equity Committee was briefed on this funding and planned programming, including the plan to procure a contractor to deliver the services, on January 9, 2020. Staff integrated feedback from this meeting into the development of the procurement specifications.

On January 22, 2020, City Council authorized the acceptance a grant from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) (Contract No. 696-TC-20-21-L098) for re-entry services to individuals being released from TDCJ who are returning to the City of Dallas area for the period September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2021; and execution of the Interlocal Agreement with TDCJ and all terms, conditions, and documents required by the agreement by Resolution No. 20-0207.

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On February 28, 2020, City Council was updated via memo on the planned release of the RFP for re-entry services to be funded by the TDCJ funding.

**Procurement**

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was advertised on March 12, 2020 and March 19, 2020. Initially planned to close on April 9, 2020, the advertisement time was extended for two additional weeks, making the new close date April 23, 2020 due to COVID.

A seven-member committee from the following departments reviewed and evaluated the qualifications:

- City Attorney’s Office (1)
- Department of Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization (2)
- Office of Budget (1)
- Office of Community Care (1)
- Office of Business Diversity (1)\*
- Office of Procurement Services (1)\*

\*The Office of Procurement Services only evaluated cost and the Office of Business Diversity only evaluated the Business Inclusion and Development Plan.

The committee selected the successful respondent on the basis of demonstrated competence and qualifications under the following criteria:

- Organization Capacity 25 points
- Program Evaluation 60 points
- Business Inclusion and Development Plan 15 points

**Project Overview**

The Regional Black Contractors Association of North Texas through their CASE-CC Program will work to provide gainful employment and stable housing assistance to individuals who were released from TDCJ jails or prisons within the past 1-3 years. Eligible participants will be residents of the City of Dallas. The program will provide short-term occupational training and pre-apprenticeship training with job placement assistance. Within the 24-month project period, the goal of 160 eligible recruits will enter one of ten cohorts offered, completing the first 30 days of the respective job placement plan. After the 30 days, cohort participants will either have earned one or more construction certificates (i.e. OSHA 10, OSHA 30, and National Center of Construction Education and Research “NCCER” Core Construction Curriculum) or have completed the 30-day, employee workforce evaluation. All cohort participants must be placed, either in a full or part-time employment, within 60 days of CASE-CC program enrollment.

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Wrap-around services provided via case manager referral include:

- Case Management
- Clothing Assistance
- Drug Offender Education
- Financial Management
- Hepatitis C Testing, Care & Treatment
- HIV/STI Testing, Care & Treatment
- Housing
- Life Skills Workshops
- Outpatient Services
- Peer Support Services
- Personal Care Services
- Recovery Support Services
- Transportation Assistance

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact myself or Jessica Galleshaw, Director of the Office of Community Care.



Nadia Chandier Hardy  
Assistant City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
Chris Caso, City Attorney  
Mark Swann, City Auditor  
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager  
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager  
Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager

Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services  
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer  
Laila Aleqresh, Chief Innovation Officer  
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion  
Directors and Assistant Directors