



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#16-1481

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: December 6, 2016

TITLE: Letter of Support for Broward County's Continuum of Care Application for
the Housing and Urban Development Youth Homelessness Demonstration
Program Grant

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission provide a letter of support for Broward County's Continuum of Care Application for the Housing and Urban Development Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Grant to develop a strategic community plan that innovatively coordinates health, behavioral health, and supportive services coupled with permanent housing for youth experiencing homelessness within Fort Lauderdale and Broward County.

Background

In October 2014 agencies from the social services sector, private sector, non-profit sector, and local governments were brought together to examine the A Way Home: Broward County, Florida's Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness and discuss strategic advancements toward solving homelessness. The goal of the workshop was to create a shared vision for the next steps in the City of Fort Lauderdale's journey to provide services and a better quality of life for the homeless focusing on Veteran's, families, and youth.

The Broward County Homeless Initiative Partnership/Continuum of Care (CoC) Division has an opportunity to submit an application for a grant offered by the United States Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) to develop a comprehensive and strategic community plan for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning (LGBTQ) youth and parenting youth ages 18-24 experiencing homelessness in Broward County.

The City recognizes the Broward County "A Way Home" CoC as a leader in convening local providers and stakeholders to promote successful community integration for homeless, unaccompanied, LGBTQ, pregnant or parenting youth dedicated to bringing

innovative health, behavioral health, and supportive services coupled with permanent housing to youth experiencing homelessness.

For over eighteen (18) years, the County and CoC have funded and coordinated a comprehensive and integrated Homeless Continuum of Care network for persons experiencing homelessness, including youth, offering evidence-based and peer support interventions that empower youth to achieve self-sufficiency. The Broward CoC possesses the experience, capacity, and commitment to effectively assist this population. The CoC and its collaborating partners are successfully impacting vulnerable youth experiencing homelessness in South Florida with a housing focused-oriented system of care.

This project will expand Fort Lauderdale's efforts to provide a comprehensive homeless strategy that leverages resources and unifies collaborative efforts to ending homelessness in Fort Lauderdale.

Resource Impact

There will be no fiscal impact as a result of this action.

Strategic Connections

This item is a *Commission Annual Action Plan* priority, included with the Policy Agenda, advancing the Comprehensive Homeless Strategy.

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the Public Places Cylinder of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 3: Be a community that find opportunities and leverages partnership to create unique, inviting and connected gathering places that highlight our beaches, waterways, urban areas, and parks.
- Objective 5: Work with partners to reduce homelessness by promoting independence and self-worth through advocacy, housing, and comprehensive services.
- Initiative 2: Implement a comprehensive short and long-term strategy with community partners to address homelessness.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are Community*.

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Letter of Support

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Department Director: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager