



# MEMORANDUM

Council Agenda  
Item No. IX. BG  
8/13/2024

## The City of OKLAHOMA CITY

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Craig Freeman, City Manager

Resolution approving Kirkpatrick Family Fund Grant Agreement to accept a \$200,000 grant in support of the mission and goals of the Key to Home Partnership to reduce homelessness in Oklahoma City, and authorizing execution of necessary documents.

### **Background:**

In April 2019, Mayor David Holt established a Task Force on Homelessness to work with a consultant and community stakeholders to develop the Strategies to Address Homelessness in Oklahoma City, which were received by the City Council on September 28, 2021 (Item No. IX. AC.). Following this planning process, the City partnered with the Arnall Family Foundation and Inasmuch Foundation to engage Clutch Consulting Group to work with the Oklahoma City's homeless services staff, local funders and service providers to drive the strategic and systematic transformation of the homeless response system.

A critical first step in the system transformation process was to restructure and expand the governing board for the homeless response system. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has designated the City of Oklahoma City to serve as the Lead Agency for our local Continuum of Care (CoC) program. In this role, City staff provides administrative support for the Continuum of Care Board, which is the HUD-mandated governing body that is responsible for collaborative planning and operation of the CoC, coordination and implementation of a housing and service system, and resource alignment and prioritization.

In April of 2023, the restructured and expanded CoC board began its work under a rebranded name, as the Key to Home Partnership. Since that time, the Key to Home Partnership ("the Partnership") has adopted a framework plan, established strategic goals, set priorities, and launched new programs and initiatives.

The City of Oklahoma City has a limited number of general-fund and grant-funded staff to manage the workload required to address growing needs associated with homelessness. Thanks to philanthropic partners and generous donors who are supplementing staff's capacity with grant-funded positions, we are able to implement the Partnership's goals and initiatives more quickly and effectively, and advance progress on implementing necessary system change.

The Kirkpatrick Family Fund seeks to support the City of Oklahoma City's efforts to reduce homelessness with a \$200,000 grant. The Kirkpatrick Family Fund directs \$30,000 of the \$200,000 grant to be used to support community-wide training and professional development, as directed by the Key to Home Partnership; and that \$85,000 per year for two years (total of \$170,000) be used to support a Key to Home Partnership Project Coordinator position. Within this timeframe, the City will evaluate and pursue continuation of this function through the budget process as a permanent position.

A Resolution approving the Kirkpatrick Family Fund Grant Agreement to accept the \$200,000 grant is submitted herewith for City Council consideration.

**Source of Funds:**

OCITY - Housing and Community Development – Homelessness Services – Donations (1872-2400206-43900002)

**Review:**

City Manager's

**Recommendation:** Resolution be adopted.