

## STAFF REPORT

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**Date:** June 14, 2023

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**Thru:** Doug Thornley, City Manager

**Subject:** Staff Report (For Possible Action): Approval of Agreement with Life Changes, Inc. to operate the Transitional Housing Program for Veterans in an amount not to exceed \$373,949.

**From:** Monica Cochran, Housing Manager

**Department:** City Manager's Office – Housing & Neighborhood Development

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**Summary:**

The agreement with Life Changes, Inc. will provide transitional housing for veterans experiencing homelessness. Veterans will have access to nightly housing, case management, and services from an experienced transitional housing provider. This transitional housing program will be housing focused with the goal of assisting each participant attain sustainable permanent housing. Staff recommends Council approval the agreement with Life Changes, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$373,949.

**Alignment with Strategic Plan:**

Economic Opportunity, Homelessness, and Affordable Housing

**Previous Council Action:**

There is no recent Council action relevant to this item.

**Background:**

Historically the City has had an agreement with the Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA) to operate the Transitional Housing Program for Veterans experiencing homelessness since October 1, 2019. Volunteers of America (VOA) previously operated the program in conjunction with emergency shelter operations at the Community Assistance Center (CAC). Through the VOA program 72 individuals were served, and 18 exited to permanent housing. The program is transitioning to a community setting through Life Changes, Inc.

**Discussion:**

Life Changes, Inc. specializes in providing transitional housing for people experiencing

homelessness, and those exiting the prison system. Life Changes, Inc. is mission driven, and aims to assist participants achieve sustainability in a sober living setting. Approval of this agreement with Life Changes, Inc. will provide transitional housing for veterans. The housing will serve seven veterans at a time for 90 days, or longer as needed to find permanent housing. Participants will be temporarily housed in one of Life Changes, Inc.'s community based homes. Life Changes, Inc. will provide nightly housing, case management, and assistance with the daily needs of participants.

The program is designed to serve veterans experiencing homelessness who are determined to be housing ready by the VA. Eligible participants will receive permanent housing through Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) and other ongoing support. Participants not eligible for HUD VASH will receive housing assistance from Life Changes, Inc. case managers.

**Financial Implications:**

Approving the agreement with Life Changes, Inc. has no implications to the General Fund. The VA will reimburse the City the total contracted amount of \$373,949.

**Legal Implications:**

Legal review completed for compliance with City procedures and Nevada law.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends Council approve the agreement with Life Changes, Inc. to operate the Transitional Housing Program for Veterans in an amount not to exceed \$373,949.

**Proposed Motion:**

I move to approve staff recommendation.

**Attachments:**

Professional Services Agreement Life Changes