



Quality of Life Committee September 14, 2026

Michael Nichols, Director



CITY OF HOUSTON * HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



Agenda

- I. Welcome/Introductions
- II. Public Services
- III. Director's Comments
- IV. Public Comments
- V. Adjourn

II. Public Services

Melody Barr, Assistant Director

II.a. SEARCH Homeless Services (All Districts)

An Ordinance authorizing a Second Amendment to the Subrecipient Agreement between the City of Houston (City) and SEARCH Homeless Services (SEARCH), extending the agreement period through April 30, 2027.

The current Agreement includes \$1,172,861.72 in Emergency Solutions Grant – Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing (ESG-RUSH), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for the operation of a rapid re-housing case management and rental assistance program serving 48 households.

II.a. SEARCH Homeless Services (All Districts)

This Amendment will allow SEARCH additional time to spend the remaining funds and continue providing rapid re-housing services.

ESG-RUSH funding is a special ESG grant administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for areas that are identified as eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Individual Assistance when a “major disaster” is declared under the Stafford Act to address the needs of individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness in a declared disaster area and have needs unmet by existing federal disaster relief programs.

II.a. SEARCH Homeless Services (All Districts)

HUD awarded the City ESG-RUSH-2 funding in response to FEMA DR-4781-TX Texas Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding and FEMA DR-4798-TX Texas Hurricane Beryl.

In March 2025, the City, in partnership with Harris County and the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County, invited organizations to submit proposals under a Request for Expression of Interest (REI).

SEARCH was one of the agencies that responded and was selected from the applicants that proposed rapid re-housing activities.



II.a. SEARCH Homeless Services (All Districts)

The initial Agreement period was April 23, 2025 through April 30, 2026. A First Amendment added additional funding, and an administrative extension subsequently extended this agreement through October 31, 2026.

This Second Amendment will extend this agreement through April 30, 2027. There were no findings or concerns in the most recent compliance monitoring.

SEARCH has received funding from the City of Houston since 1996.

II.b. The Beacon of Downtown Houston (Diversion) (All Districts)

An Ordinance authorizing a First Amendment to the Subrecipient Agreement for Diversion Services between the City of Houston (City) and The Beacon of Downtown Houston (The Beacon),

Providing up to an additional \$485,000.00 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for case management and diversion-rapid resolutions for households experiencing or at imminent risk of homelessness and moving them quickly into stable housing.

II.b. The Beacon of Downtown Houston (Diversion) (All Districts)

The Beacon will serve as a centralized Day Center and Access Point, providing individualized, wraparound case management to connect households with housing, supportive services, and community-based resources; resolve housing instability quickly; and reduce reliance on emergency shelter and long-term homeless services.

The program will prioritize rapid, individualized interventions and aims to assist at least 50 households in achieving and maintaining stable housing while reducing their need for ongoing assistance.

II.b. The Beacon of Downtown Houston (Diversion) (All Districts)

CATEGORY	AMOUNT	PERCENT
Program	\$436,500.00	90.00%
Administration	\$48,500.00	10.00%
Total	\$485,000.00	100.00%

In March 2025, in partnership with Harris County and the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County, the City issued a Request for Expression of Interest (REI) for Diversion Services.

The Beacon was selected from among the organizations that responded and proposed to provide these services.

II.b. The Beacon of Downtown Houston (Diversion) (All Districts)

The original Agreement term was September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026, and was administratively extended through November 30, 2026.

This First Amendment will extend the Agreement an additional 12 months, through November 30, 2027. The most recent annual compliance monitoring resulted in no findings.

As of May 2026, The Beacon had utilized 49.41% of its allocated funds.

II.c. Family Endeavors, Inc. Other Permanent Housing (All Districts)

An Ordinance authorizing a First Amendment to the Subrecipient Agreement between the City of Houston (City) and Family Endeavors, Inc. (Endeavors) to modify the 24 - month budget with no change to the total funding amount of \$7,495,014.05 in HOME Investment Partnerships Program – American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) and End Street Homeless Fund 2012 (Fund 2012) funding.

The budget modification will reallocate funds from approved line items to add new program positions and does not change the scope of service.

II.c. Family Endeavors, Inc. – Other Permanent Housing (All Districts)

This program will continue to serve approximately 150 households. Services will include housing stability case management, housing navigation, utility deposits, and rental assistance payments for households placed in permanent housing units as well as other supportive services.

Endeavors' Other Permanent Housing (OPH) initiative serves individuals who are currently living unsheltered and may have significant mental health, physical health, and substance-use related issues that affect their ability to remain stably housed.

II.c. Family Endeavors, Inc. Other Permanent Housing (All Districts)

Referrals for households assisted by this program will come through The Way Home's Coordinated Entry System.

Case managers will meet weekly with households, assist with finding housing units, moving each into housing, connect households to available benefits and develop a housing stability plan to maintain housing once the assistance through this program ends.

II.c. Family Endeavors, Inc. Other Permanent Housing (All Districts)

In March 2025, in partnership with Harris County and the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County, the City invited organizations to submit proposals under a Request for Expression of Interest (REI).

Endeavors was one of the agencies that was selected from the applicants that proposed other permanent housing activities.

The Agreement period is from August 1, 2025 to July 31, 2027. This First Amendment does not extend the term. Endeavors was previously awarded funding from the City of Houston in 2020. There were no findings or concerns in the most recent compliance monitoring.

II.d. TDHCA HHSP General Set Aside Funds (All Districts)

An Ordinance authorizing the City of Houston (City) to execute a contract with the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) and accept \$1,280,055.00 of Fiscal Year 2027 Texas Homeless Housing and Services Program (HHSP) General Set-Aside funds.

The General Set-Aside allocation must be used by the City on activities eliminating and/or preventing homelessness.

II.d. TDHCA HHSP General Set Aside Funds (All Districts)

Specifically, allowable activities include construction, development, or procurement of housing for homeless persons; rehabilitation of structures targeted to serving homeless persons or persons at-risk of homelessness; provision of direct services and case management to homeless persons or persons at-risk of homelessness; operations of emergency shelters; or other homelessness-related activities as approved by the TDHCA.

The performance period for this funding is September 1, 2026, to August 31, 2027.

II.d. TDHCA HHSP General Set Aside Funds (All Districts)

HHSP was established by the 81st Texas Legislature through an appropriations rider and codified during the 82nd Texas legislative session. Through HHSP, the state provides funding to municipalities with a population of 285,500 or greater.

There are currently nine cities in Texas receiving HHSP to support services to individuals and families that are homeless or at-risk of homelessness, including: Arlington, Austin, Corpus Christi, Dallas, El Paso, Fort Worth, Houston, Plano and San Antonio.

An Ordinance allocating HHSP General Set-Aside funds for use by local nonprofits will be presented to Council in the coming months.



II.e. TDHCA HHSP Youth Set Aside Funds (All Districts)

An Ordinance authorizing the City of Houston (City) to execute a contract with the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) and accept \$409,258.00 of Fiscal Year 2027 Texas Homeless Housing and Services Program (HHSP) Youth Set-Aside funds.

The Youth Set-Aside allocation must be used by the City on activities eliminating and/or preventing homelessness in youth-headed households aged 24 or under.

II.e. TDHCA HHSP Youth Set Aside Funds (All Districts)

Specifically, allowable activities include essential services, street outreach and transitional living for persons experiencing homelessness in youth-headed households; provision of direct services and case management to persons experiencing homelessness in youth-headed households; or other homelessness-related activities as approved by the TDHCA.

The performance period for this funding is September 1, 2026, to August 31, 2027. An Ordinance allocating the HHSP Youth Set-Aside funds for use by local nonprofits will be presented to Council for consideration within the coming months.

II.f. Access Care of Coastal Texas, Inc. (HOPWA) (All Districts)

An Ordinance authorizing a First Amendment to the Subrecipient Agreement (Agreement) between the City of Houston (City) and Access Care of Coastal Texas, Inc. (ACCT), providing up to an additional \$1,276,825.00 in Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) funds to support second year funding the following:

- (1) Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA);
- (2) Short-Term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Assistance (STRMU);
- (3) Permanent Housing Placement Services (PHPS); and
- (4) Supportive Services to a minimum of 149 very-low income households living with HIV/AIDS.

II.f. Access Care of Coastal Texas, Inc. (HOPWA) (All Districts)

Supportive Services include case management, nutritional, and medical transportation services, among others that will promote housing stability, improve access to care or related services, and reinforce opportunities towards independent living for all household members.

The City is the HOPWA program administrator for multiple areas including the City and counties of Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller counties found with the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area (“EMSA”). ACCT is located in Galveston and primarily serves the southeast portion of the EMSA.

II.f. Access Care of Coastal Texas, Inc. (HOPWA) (All Districts)

Category	Amount	Percent
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	\$715,000.00	56.00%
Supportive Services	\$250,000.00	19.58%
Short-Term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Assistance	\$200,000.00	15.66%
Administrative	\$86,825.00	6.80%
Permanent Housing Placement Services	\$25,000.00	1.96%
Total	\$1,276,825.00	100.00%

HCD conducted a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for HOPWA services in March 2025 with a one-year renewal option at the City's discretion. ACCT was one of the selected agencies.

II.f. Access Care of Coastal Texas, Inc. (HOPWA) (All Districts)

The initial Agreement term began November 1, 2025 and this First Amendment will extend the term and provide funding through October 31, 2027.

As of July 2026, ACCT has expended approximately 76% of their allocated funding and served approximately 81% of their overall client goal.

ACCT has received funding from the City since 2006 and had no findings on their last compliance monitoring review.

III. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Michael Nichols, Director

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council Member Julian Ramirez, Chair