



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-1298, **Agenda Item #:** 19.

3/4/2021

Posting Language

Ratify a contract with El Buen Samaritano to fund and administer a program to provide rental assistance to income-eligible households economically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, for a term of one year in an amount not to exceed \$1,470,207.00.

Lead Department

Housing and Planning Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$1,470,207.00 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget of the Housing and Planning Department.

For More Information:

Rosie Truelove, Director, Housing and Planning Department, 512-974-3064; or Nefertitti Jackmon, Division Manager, Housing and Planning Department, at 512-974-3196.

Additional Backup Information:

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) is distributing Community Development Block Grant - Coronavirus Relief funds (CDBG-CV) for the Texas Emergency Rental Assistance Program (TERAP) and Texas Eviction Diversion Program (TEDP) to provide rental assistance to income-eligible Households economically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This rental assistance can pay for up to six months of rent, including rental arrears, with at least one of those months covering a current or future month of rent.

El Buen Samaritano has more than 30 years of experience assisting tenants. Under the one-year contract for \$1,470,207.00, El Buen Samaritano will provide rental assistance in compliance with the TDCA TERAP and TEDP guidelines.

The Housing and Planning Department (HPD) hereby designates El Buen Samaritano as a subrecipient for the TERAP and TEDP, based upon their extensive experience providing assistance to Latino, immigrant, and low-income individuals to pay utilities, rent, and/or additional specialty health care services. Additionally, El Buen Samaritano has experience collecting income and eligibility information with bilingual staff and a robust IT, data management system, and call center infrastructure.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.