



City of Austin

Recommendation for Action

File #: 25-1683, **Agenda Item #:** 65.

8/28/2025

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with The Other Ones Foundation, Inc., to provide support services at the Esperanza Community, for a 13-month term, beginning September 1, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$500,000. Funding: \$500,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Social Services Contracts Budget of the Homeless Strategy Office.

Lead Department

Homeless Strategy Office.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$500,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Social Services Contracts Budget of the Homeless Strategy Office.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

Approval of this item will authorize the Homeless Strategy Office (HSO) to negotiate and execute an agreement with The Other Ones Foundation (TOOF) to provide support services at the Esperanza Community for a 13-month term, beginning September 1, 2025. These funds will enable TOOF to continue to offer support services to 100 individuals.

The Esperanza Community is a tiny home emergency shelter community in East Austin. Its low barrier and trauma-informed nature make it a unique and integral part of Austin's continuum of care. The physical shelter and associated services respond to the needs of people who have not engaged with, or been adequately served by, more traditional shelter services. Community members are offered a safe environment where they can move into the next phase of their housing journey. Community members receive holistic supportive services, including onsite work opportunities, substance use support, highly personalized case management and housing navigation, and 24-hour crisis management. Through this mix of social outlets, wellness services, and work opportunities, the Esperanza Community sets the stage for people to learn the skills needed to build and engage in community wherever they are.

This agreement aligns closely with HSO's overarching goals to make homelessness rare, brief, and nonrecurring. By investing in a proven, person-centered model like the Esperanza Community, HSO is advancing its commitment to a more inclusive and responsive homeless response system. Additionally, this investment reflects HSO's broader strategy to expand low-barrier, trauma-informed shelter options that not only provide immediate safety but also create meaningful pathways to permanent housing and long-term stability.