



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: Public Health and Human Services

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: February 19, 2024

Re: City of Refuge

Executive Summary

A resolution authorizing the City Manager to sign an agreement for services between City of Refuge and the City of Columbia, MO.

Discussion

The City of Columbia received \$25.2 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to address the public health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. On October 2, 2023, the City Council approved a resolution that instructed staff to negotiate agreements for Council consideration utilizing the ARPA funds. This agreement with City of Refuge addresses one of the priority areas, workforce development/support. Under this agreement, City of Refuge will provide the professional services, volunteer coordination, and public awareness of refugee needs. The original proposal included building an early childhood education center for children 3 to 5. The center would help refugee families prepare their children for English language learning before attending public school, and provide parents the opportunity to take advantage of the City of Refuge's workforce development programs. The City of Refuge made significant progress on the building prior to the execution of this agreement. Costs incurred prior to contract execution cannot be reimbursed with ARPA funds. Therefore, after conversations with City of Refuge, staff recommended pursuing a purchase of service model. The agreement is for \$500,000 and will end on January 31, 2027.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: This would issue \$500,000 for a project which is funded with City ARPA funds.

Long-Term Impact: none.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Resilient Economy, Secondary Impact: Not Applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Economic Development, Secondary Impact: Not applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable



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Legislative History

Date	Action
10/02/2023	R154-23 A Resolution Allocating \$25,284,624.00 in American Rescue Plan Funds and authorizing the City Manager to negotiate any agreements or other documents consistent with such allocations https://gocolumbiamo.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6366252&GUID=243DA7BA-32C5-4F34-BA37-E71A75032C5E&Options=ID Text &Search=154-23

Suggested Council Action

Should Council agree with staff recommendations, an affirmative vote is in order.