



**CITY OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST**

TO: Mayor & City Council
FROM: Councilmember Lillian Hunter
COPIES TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager; Tadd Wille, Deputy City Manager; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney
SUBJECT: **Furnishings, fixtures and equipment at New Directions crisis residential Center**
DATE: September 5, 2019

I ask for your support for a Council Contingency Fund expenditure.

LEGISLATIVE INTENT:

Council Contingency Fund Request:

Pierce County is designated a high needs county for young people, 12-17 years of age, experiencing abuse, neglect or homelessness or in need of emergency shelter. The community was without dedicated services for this population for over 30 years until our temporary New Directions crises residential center was opened in 2016, at a temporary location as they partnered with the Tacoma Housing Authority (THA) for this new site. The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction tracks annually the number of students who have experienced homelessness. During the 2014-15 school year, 3,746 students in Pierce Co. were identified as homeless. A point-in-time count was conducted by the county in January 2016. The count found that 23% of the 1,762 counted were under age 18.

Community Youth Services (CYS) is a nonprofit serving the community. Building upon CYS' history of meeting the needs of runaway and homeless young people, CYS was chosen by the City of Tacoma and Pierce County to operate a crisis residential center in that county similar to the successful program CYS has operated at Haven House in Thurston County since 1984. The Arlington Drive Youth Campus location will be the permanent home for New Directions, replacing their existing temporary facility. Like Haven House, New Directions will continue to operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, sheltering youth experiencing homelessness, youth in conflict with their families, youth exiting juvenile detention who cannot return home and state dependent youth who have runaway or become homeless.

Since opening in late 2016, New Directions has served over 445 participants for over 3445 bed-nights of care. Of those participants that have utilized these services roughly 90% have had a safe transition, either back home with family, into a relative placement, into foster care or another safe long-term living situation. With the expansion of moving from a six bed facility to a twelve bed facility we easily see the number of young people served double. Roughly 300-400 participants per year that otherwise would not have their emergency shelter needs met would now have a safe place to go in their time of need. The City's Neighborhood and Community Services department budget funds Community Youth Services to operate the temporary Crisis Residential Center, in the amount of \$250,670 for the 2019-2020 biennium.

CYS partnered with THA to secure capital funding for the overall project design and construction of the facility through collaboration with government, tax credits, foundations and other sources. The City funded

\$1.8 million toward the capital project, provided directly to the project developer, THA. The funding agreement stated that this was the maximum amount the City would commit to the capital project.

Furnishing, fixtures, and equipment costs for New Directions CRC, however, are an expense borne entirely by CYS. The estimated cost to purchase, install, finish and maintain these furnishings and equipment is \$120,000. CYS is seeking funding for their final phase in this project from community foundations and other partner and have requested up to \$25,000 from the City of Tacoma. Funds from the City of Tacoma would be contingent on CYS securing the additional \$95,000, to close the gap to reaching the \$120,000 goal.

FUNDING REQUESTED:
\$ 25,000

ALIGNMENT WITH TACOMA 2025 KEY FOCUS AREAS:

This program, project, or event is best aligned with the following (Check all that apply):

Livability: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Improve health outcomes and reduce disparities, in alignment with the community health needs assessment and CHIP, for all Tacoma residents

If you have a question related to the Council Contingency Fund Request, please contact Rebecca Boydston at rboydston@cityoftacoma.org or 253-591-5164.

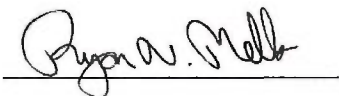
SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY: _____


Council Member

SUPPORTING COUNCIL MEMBERS SIGNATURES (2 SIGNATURES ONLY)

(Signatures demonstrate support to initiate discussion and consideration of the subject matter by City Council for potential policy development and staff guidance/direction.)

1.  POS# 2

2.  POS# 8

Mayor's initials _____

2019-2020 Council Contingency Commitments

[illegible]