



SAN DIEGO
HOUSING
COMMISSION

We're About People

San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) Expansion of the Homelessness Program for Engaged Educational Resources (PEER) Presentation to the SDHC Board of Commissioners June 11, 2021

Lisa Jones
Executive Vice President Strategic Initiatives
San Diego Housing Commission



SDHC – Expansion of the Homelessness Program for Engaged Educational Resources (PEER)

Introduction

- A first-of-its kind collaboration between SDHC and San Diego City College.
- Provides specialized education, training and job placement assistance to develop the workforce needed for programs and services that help San Diegans experiencing homelessness.
- Educational program focused on engaging students who are developing their career paths, creating a skilled workforce to meet the immediate and long-term workforce needs for the City of San Diego's homeless programming and services.
- SDHC approached the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) to enlist their partnership in developing and launching this program.
- First class launched October 13, 2020.



SDHC – Expansion of the Homelessness Program for Engaged Educational Resources (PEER)

Overview

- Homelessness PEER Program's objective:
 - Provide a pipeline for students into employment opportunities in homelessness services via specialized education, training and job placement assistance.
- This includes career counselling and job placement resources as well as an eight-week course (Human Services-75).
- Human Services-75 is part of San Diego City College's School of Social Work to attract students interested in social systems of care and public service.
- The course is currently conducted by live video conference because of safety precautions due to COVID-19.



SDHC – Expansion of the Homelessness Program for Engaged Educational Resources (PEER)

Overview (Continued)

- Includes topics necessary to create a skilled workforce to support the City of San Diego's homelessness programming and services:
 - Introduction to the San Diego County Continuum of Care, Regional Task Force on the Homeless;
 - Overview of the City of San Diego Community Action Plan on Homelessness;
 - Introduction to evidence-based practices, including “Housing First” principles, Cultural Competency and Crisis-Intervention;
 - Overview of housing interventions and resources;
 - Career opportunities, how to stay connected to the industry, and best practices in self-care; and
 - Opportunities to engage with local frontline staff, program directors, and both regional and national subject matter experts through guest speakers.



SDHC – Expansion of the Homelessness Program for Engaged Educational Resources (PEER)

Fiscal Year 2021 Program Outcomes

- Goal to enroll at least 15 students per semester in the initial Human Services-75 course.
- Over the past two semesters, approximately 1,401 students received a live presentation or correspondence from PEER Program staff to share information about the course and garner interest.
- Projected outcomes were *significantly* exceeded as interest in the program grew rapidly:
 - 42 students enrolled in the Fall 2020 course; and
 - 43 students enrolled in the Spring 2021 course;
 - Exceeds SDCCD normal per-class enrollment cap.



SDHC – Expansion of the Homelessness Program for Engaged Educational Resources (PEER)

Fiscal Year 2022 Budget

- Fiscal Year 2021: \$187,553 in SDHC local funds through June 30, 2021, when the first option expires.
- Fiscal Year 2022: \$187,533 in SDHC local funds and \$250,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to expand the program
 - ARPA funds contingent on funding being allocated for this purpose in the City of San Diego's Fiscal Year 2022 budgeting process. and expanded with an additional \$250,000

PEER Program Funding		
Local	ARPA	Total
\$ 187,553	\$ 250,000	\$ 437,553



SDHC – Expansion of the Homelessness Program for Engaged Educational Resources (PEER)

Expanded Program

- The expanded Scope of Work includes:
 - Offering the Human Services-75 course twice each semester for the potential to enroll approximately 80 students per semester.
 - Increasing staffing to:
 - Focus on additional outreach to community and other colleges about the course offering;
 - Continue outreach and networking to the homelessness services agencies to fill positions with qualified staff;
 - Expand career counseling; and,
 - Provide additional job placement services, including expanding career fairs and other events to foster employment opportunities.



SDHC – Expansion of the Homelessness Program for Engaged Educational Resources (PEER)

Staff Recommendations

That the SDHC Board of Commissioners take the following actions:

- Authorize the Housing Commission to exercise the second option to renew a one-year contract term with San Diego Community College District in the amount of \$437,553 to operate the expanded Homelessness Program for Engaged Educational Resources (PEER) from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022;
- Authorize SDHC's President & Chief Executive Officer (President & CEO), or designee, to execute all documents and instruments that are necessary and/or appropriate to implement these approvals, in a form approved by General Counsel, and to take such actions necessary and/or appropriate to implement these approvals; and
- Authorize the President & CEO, or designee, to substitute funding sources and/or increase compensation by not more than 20 percent of the total agreement amount for the proposed agreement, if necessary, without further action by the SDHC Board of Commissioners, but only if and to the extent that funds are determined to be available for such purposes.



SDHC – Expansion of the Homelessness Program for Engaged Educational Resources (PEER)

Questions & Comments

