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# San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) Contract with the San Diego Community College District for the Homelessness Program for Engaged Educational Resources (Homelessness PEER)

Presentation to the SDHC Board of Commissioners  
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# SDHC – Homelessness PEER

## Introduction

- A first-of-its-kind collaboration between SDHC and San Diego Community College District (SDCCD)
  - SDHC identified the need for additional qualified applicants for positions in the area of homelessness programs and services.
  - Summer 2019: SDHC reached out to SDCCD to begin developing the program.
  - SDHC and SDCCD staff continued course development despite the onset of COVID-19.
  - October 13, 2020: Course launched via live video format.
- Designed to create a cohort of professionals meeting the immediate and long-term workforce needs for the City of San Diego’s homelessness programming and services
- Aligns with the strategies contained in the Community Action Plan on Homelessness for the City of San Diego
  - Creating a pipeline for students into employment opportunities in homelessness services
  - Developing the industry-specific skills and knowledge needed to strengthen and improve system performance



# SDHC – Homelessness PEER

## Introduction (Continued)

- Fiscal Year 2022: The City of San Diego provided additional funding to support SDHC's and SDCCD's efforts to expand Homelessness PEER due to significant student interest.
- The enhanced program offers the course four times per academic year and provides more staff to:
  - Focus on additional outreach to community and other colleges about the course offering;
  - Continue outreach and networking to 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 – Homelessness PEER

## Program Overview

- Homelessness PEER utilizes established certificate programs to support individual education plans for students interested in working with persons experiencing homelessness or related fields.
- Program curriculum includes:
  - Academic counseling
  - Career planning
  - Job placement resources
  - Volunteer/internship opportunities
  - Eight-week course designed for this specific purpose
- The course, referred to as Human Services-75, is embedded in San Diego City College’s School of Social Work to attract students interested in social systems of care and public service.



# SDHC – Homelessness PEER

## Program Overview (Continued)

- The Human Services-75 course includes a variety of topics vital to creating a cohort of professionals to work in the homeless programming and services industry, including but not limited to:
  - Introduction to the San Diego County Continuum of Care, Regional Task Force on Homelessness
  - Overview of the Community Action Plan on Homelessness for the City of San Diego
  - Introduction to evidence-based practices
  - Overview of housing interventions and resources
  - Career opportunities and creating connections in the industry
  - Opportunities to engage with local frontline staff, program Directors, and both regional and national subject matter experts.



# SDHC – Homelessness PEER

## Scope of Work

- Offering the Human Services-75 course four times per school year
- Conducting outreach to the community and other colleges about the course offering to increase public interest
- Networking with local homeless services agencies to identify employment opportunities
- Offering academic counseling and career plans
- Offering career and educational counseling
- Creating career plans while developing job readiness skills, resumes, interviewing skills, and preparation for employment
- Job development and placement of students into jobs
- Conducting and expanding career fairs and other events to foster employment opportunities



# SDHC – Homelessness PEER

## Fiscal Year 2022 Program Outcomes

- Outcomes to date in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022:
  - 21 students enrolled in the Fall 2021 course.
  - 81 students enrolled in the two Spring 2022 course sessions.
- First six months of FY 2022:
  - 412 counseling sessions held.
  - 54 students received coaching, job-seeking assistance, and resume building services.
  - Approximately 3,500 people received information about Homelessness PEER via outreach activities.
  - Five job fairs were held (a fair was recently held in April 2022).
  - At least 23 students self-reported hires by organizations addressing homelessness since program start.



# SDHC – Homelessness PEER

## Program Highlights

- Homelessness PEER currently partners with 23 homeless service organizations.
- As other regions and communities are learning about Homelessness PEER, they have expressed interest in learning more about the program and developing similar academic programs.
- March 2021: Homelessness PEER was featured in a 28-minute video presented to the League for Innovation in the Community College’s national “Innovations 2021” virtual conference.
- October 2021: Homelessness PEER received a national Award of Merit from the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO).
- November 2021: Homelessness PEER was featured on “Inside California Education,” a statewide public broadcasting program.





## SDHC – Homelessness PEER Program Highlights (Continued)



*Homelessness PEER participant Karisa Cinco  
Case Manager for People Assisting the Homeless (PATH)*



## SDHC – Homelessness PEER

### Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Budget

- Homelessness PEER will be funded with SDHC Local Funds and City General Funds
  - Contingent on funding being allocated for this purpose in the City of San Diego’s Fiscal Year 2023 budgeting process.
- Funding for renewals is also contingent on funding being made available for this purpose in future years.

Funding Source	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
City General Fund	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000
SDHC Local Funds	\$187,553	\$187,553	\$187,553
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$437,553</b>	<b>\$437,553</b>	<b>\$437,553</b>



# SDHC – Homelessness PEER

## Staff Recommendations

### That the SDHC Board of Commissioners take the following actions:

- 1) Authorize SDHC to enter into an agreement with the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD), using a non-competitive sole source process pursuant to SDHC Statement of Procurement Policy Section 9.4.2, in the amount of \$250,000 in City General Funds and \$187,553 in SDHC local funds, for a total of \$437,553 to operate the Homelessness Program for Engaged Educational Resources for an initial term of July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, with two one-year options for renewal, contingent on funding being made available for this purpose.
- 2) Authorize SDHC's Interim 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 and format approved by General Counsel, and to take such actions necessary and/or appropriate to implement these approvals, provided that a copy of the documents, signed as to form by General Counsel, are submitted to each Housing Commissioner in advance of approval for the designee to sign.
- 3) Authorize the Interim 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, but only if and to the extent that funds are determined to be available for such purposes.



# Questions?

