



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: AUGUST 6, 2024

FROM: LIBRARY WARDS: ALL

SUBJECT: APPROVE THE FIRST AMENDMENT OF THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH PATH OF LIFE MINISTRIES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$241,340 FOR A TOTAL AGREEMENT AMOUNT OF \$441,340 FOR THE SOCIAL WORK INTERNSHIP PROGRAM CALLED THE LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR COLLABORATIVE AT EIGHT RIVERSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY LOCATIONS TO CONDUCT NEEDS ASSESSMENT, FOR THE TERM OF JULY 1, 2024 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2026

ISSUE:

Approve the First Amendment of the American Rescue Plan Act Subrecipient Agreement with Path of Life Ministries in the amount of \$241,340 for a total agreement amount of \$441,340 of the American Rescue Plan Act funds for the Social Work Internship Program called the Love Your Neighbor Collaborative at eight Riverside Public Library locations to conduct needs assessment, for the term of July 1, 2024 through February 28, 2026.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Approve the First Amendment of Agreement with Path of Life Ministries in the amount of \$241,340 for a total amount of \$441,340 of the American Rescue Plan Act funds for the Social Work Internship Program called the Love Your Neighbor Collaborative at eight Riverside Public Library locations, for the term of July 1, 2024 through February 28, 2026; and
2. Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute the First Amendment of the American Rescue Plan Act Subrecipient Agreement with Path of Life Ministries, including making minor and non-substantive changes and contract extensions subject to availability of funding.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act to facilitate the recovery from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) established the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund, which provides a combined \$350 billion in assistance

to eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments to assist in the economic and health recovery by providing resources to address impacts resulting from the crisis.

BACKGROUND:

ARPA established the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund to provide resources to support communities that are struggling with the impacts of COVID-19. These funds may be used to respond to pandemic response needs including mitigation and prevention, support to communities and populations most impacted by the COVID-19 crisis, and fill revenue shortfalls. The US Department of the Treasury first released Interim Final Rule providing eligibility guidance as well as regularly updated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ). The Interim Final Rule provided initial guidance and served to help communities develop proposals for funding.

On November 9, 2021, the City Council approved the ARPA funding Expenditure Category Plan for the first allocation in the amount of \$36,767,594 following the Interim Final Rule guidelines, which included an allocation of \$450,000 for Public Health - Mental Health Support to create a Mental Health Resource Hub that provides services, counseling, programs in various languages at no cost or reduced cost to residents facing mental health issues. City partnership between internal departments and local nonprofits. This resource hub can be used by the community at large and have focus areas that target the highest needs populations, i.e., families, youth, homeless population, etc. Potential partners may include health providers and related nonprofit organizations. Including mental health programs at the Library. The Final Rule was issued on January 6, 2022, and became effective on April 1, 2022. The City received its first ARPA allocation of \$36,767,594 in June 2021 and is required to submit quarterly Project and Expenditure Reports and annual Recovery Plan Performance Reports.

DISCUSSION:

On January 10, 2023, the City Council approved the American Rescue Plan Act Subrecipient Agreement with Path of Life Ministries for \$200,000 of the American Rescue Plan Act funds for the Social Work Internship Program, including making minor and non-substantive changes and contract extensions subject to the availability of funding.

The Riverside Public Library serves many customers who are experiencing homelessness or other mental health challenges. In Fiscal Year 2021/2022 the Library had 309 incidents and 319 incidents in Fiscal Year 2022/23. Following best practices established throughout the United States including the San Francisco Public Library, the Riverside Public Library has identified the need for social workers to assist customers experiencing homelessness and other mental health challenges in multiple library locations. To do this, the Library would like to continue to partner with Path of Life Ministries to utilize their Social Work Internship Program, known as the Love Your Neighbor Collaborative (LYNC) that serves homeless individuals and families by utilizing undergraduate and graduate level social work students to connect them to crucial resources aimed at increasing their ability to become independent.

Path of Life Ministries has placed social work interns at three (3) library sites on a rotating basis, supervised by social work specialists. The interns engaged displaced individuals and referred them to agency partners to receive assistance for their mental, physical, behavioral, and spiritual needs. They also engaged in a needs assessment process alongside their supervisors and professors.

Interns' schedules, based on their academic calendars, will be determined based on the library sites' hours of operation. Interns interface with displaced individuals at three (3) libraries throughout Riverside to connect displaced individuals with various resources to improve their quality of life and to receive information about possible long-term housing options. The interns will be placed and supervised at the libraries for two years to work on meeting displaced individuals' crucial needs.

Based on the number and type of incidents, interns have been scheduled at the Arlington, SPC Jesus S. Duran Eastside, and Main Library locations. La Sierra and Marcy Library will add interns as the program continues to expand.

The cost to operate the program for an additional 20-month period is \$241,340. To ensure funding is spent in the most impactful way, staff are conducting ongoing evaluation of projects for reporting purposes. The interns will be tracking clients' age, race, ethnicity, income, household makeup and referrals made to partnering agencies. They will also be using the needs assessments to identify workshops and additional resources that can benefit the community. Based on the information gathered, staff will also determine if there are any underserved and/or disproportionately impacted population(s) that need to be prioritized for programs. In addition to ongoing assessments, funding is spent to start programs in phases and allows programs to be structured for continued benefits moving forward.

The evaluation of the Social Work Internship Program will include a review of the program's performance outcomes measurements for shelter, obtain or retain housing, earnings/employment, and physical and mental health status.

Since the project launched in January 2023, Path of Life has worked with multiple higher education establishments for local interns, including Loma Linda University, La Sierra University, University of Texas at Arlington, Tulane University, Walden University, California State University Fullerton, California Baptist University, and Los Angeles Pacific University. To date there have been nine (9) interns that have served for various lengths of time between the three sites.

An advisory Board made up of educational and civic leaders has been established. Members include: Talolo Leplae, MSW, MBA, LCSW, Assistant Professor, Social Work and Social Ecology, Assistant Director, MSW Program, Loma Linda University; Christie Bell, MSW, LCSW, Assistant Professor, Social Work and Social Ecology, Director, Field Education, Loma Linda University; Phillip Breitenbucher, EdD, Assistant Professor of Social Work, Director, Office of Field Education, MSW Online Coordinator, California Baptist University; Marni Straine, DSW, Chair, Department of Social Work, La Sierra University; Daphne Thomas, MSW, LCSW, Associate Professor, La Sierra University; and Steve Hemenway, La Sierra University Community/Ward 7 Councilmember.

The chart below details the number of individuals engaged at each of the three libraries, the number enrolled in the program, the number housed, and referrals to Path of Life Ministries Shelters.

Services	Main	Arlington	SPC Jesus S. Duran Eastside
Engagements	351	72	18
Enrollments in LYNC (Intake Completed)	32	10	1

Housed	11	1	
Successfully referred to Path of Life Ministries Shelter	14	3	2

Additionally, the chart below shows the total number of participants who have received other services and the type of services received.

Services Accepted	Main	Arlington	SPC Jesus S. Duran Eastside
Legal assistance referral	86	10	3
Transportation	33	10	
Mainstream benefits	57	6	
Application assistance (state ID, SSC, birth certificate)	31	8	3
Rental assistance referral	7	1	5
Life Skills	193	39	3
Outreach Referral	50	14	4
Re-entry (CEO works)	14	5	1
Adult Protective Services Referral	4	1	
Workforce/Employment Referrals	36	20	7
Recovery Referrals	33	3	
Mental Health Referrals	39	16	1

Purchasing Resolution 24101, Section 1104 allows for change orders and states... “Modifications to a Purchase Order shall be made only by Change Order, except that minor variances of \$200 or less, where the variance is due to sales tax or freight charges may be processed without a Change Order. Subject to the availability of funds, Change Orders may be utilized for purposes of ... (5) modifying contract completion time or the term of a Contract”.

The Purchasing Manager concurs that the recommendation action in compliance with Purchasing Resolution No. 24101.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

The ARPA Expenditure Plan is interwoven throughout the entire 2025 Envision Riverside Strategic Plan and Goals.

The item aligns with each of the five Cross-Cutting Threads as follows:

1. **Community Trust** – Riverside is committed to providing a transparent process and gather community input to support how funds will be used. To assist with these efforts, the City developed an ARPA webpage that includes program information, a public survey and

dedicated ARPA email address.

2. **Equity** – Riverside is supportive of the ongoing evaluation of potential programs and projects that ensure a response to disproportionately impacted groups and the exacerbation of health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines.
3. **Fiscal Responsibility** – This item ensures fiscal responsibility of ARPA funds by identifying a need or negative impact and identifying how the project/program addresses the identified need.
4. **Innovation** – Riverside is committed to responding to the community’s changing needs and preparing for the future through developing ARPA funded projects/programs that build on collaborative partnerships.
5. **Sustainability & Resiliency** – This item ensures sustainability through ongoing evaluation of projects and programs to allow adaptation to meet the current Covid-19 public health emergency and future needs ensuring the City’s capacity to persevere, adapt, and grow.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total fiscal impact of this action is \$241,340 for the amendment of the agreement. Sufficient funds are budgeted and available in the Grants & Restricted Programs Fund, Federal Operating Grants account number 8810200-440110.

Prepared by: Angela Henson, Sr. Management Analyst
Approved by: Erin Christmas, Library Director
Certified as to
availability of funds: Kristie Thomas, Finance Director/Assistant Chief Financial Officer
Approved by: Kris Martinez, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Phaedra A. Norton, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. American Rescue Plan Act Subrecipient Agreement
2. Amendment to Agreement
3. Presentation