



City of Arts & Innovation

Housing and Homelessness Committee Memorandum

**TO: HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS
COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

DATE: NOVEMBER 23, 2020

FROM: OFFICE OF HOMELESS SOLUTIONS

WARDS: ALL

**SUBJECT: OVERVIEW OF RIVERSIDE ENDING HOMELESSNESS FUND – DIRECT
SUBMITTAL**

ISSUE:

Receive and file a presentation on the Riverside Ending Homelessness Fund

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Housing and Homelessness Committee receive and file an overview presentation on the Riverside Ending Homelessness Fund and offer feedback to staff.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Riverside created the Riverside Ending Homelessness Fund (REHF) Committee in 2009 to oversee a community-driven fund to support the efforts of homeless programs and services in the City. In 2014, REHF became a nonprofit to provide donors with the benefit of writing off their donations on their income taxes.

REHF's mission is to fund programs and activities that advance the priorities identified in the City's Homeless Plan or the current city-approved action plan to ending homelessness. REHF's values include:

- A holistic approach that emphasizes coordination of care;
- Collaboration and cooperation between a broad range of community stakeholders including public and private partnerships;
- Assist homeless individuals and families in achieving and maintaining self-sufficiency;
- A housing-first approach focused on homeless prevention and rapid re-housing to help households at risk of becoming homeless and place homeless individuals directly into housing coupled with case management; and
- End homelessness for all subpopulations.

In 2016, the REHF Board voted to separate from the City and operate independently.

DISCUSSION:

Due to the COVID pandemic, the REHF was not able to conduct the City co-sponsored Walk to End Homelessness event in April, which is the biggest revenue generator for REHF. As a result, REHF will be reaching out to the Walk to End Homelessness event's sponsors and walkers to generate donations. Donations received will be made available through a grant application process to fund the following activities:

- Direct services that help people secure housing
- Supportive services for people in housing
- Rental assistance
- Homeless prevention

REHF has revamped their website and donations can be made using the following link:
<https://www.riversidehomelessness.org/>.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this update.

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Approved as to form:	Kristi J. Smith, Chief Assistant City Attorney
Attachment:	Presentation