# CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE, AND TENNESSEE FAIR HOUSING COUNCIL, INC., FOR THE FAIR HOUSING EDUCATION AND OUTREACH COF Contract No. 2019-0242

This Agreement (hereinafter "Agreement"), made and entered into this 2 day of Augus 2019 by and between the City of Franklin, (hereinafter "THE CITY") and the Tennessee Fair Housing Council, Inc. for the award of funding for the Fair Housing Education and Outreach Program.

#### WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the City is eligible for entitlement funds through the federal Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") program; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to contract with the Tennessee Fair Housing Council, as a housing related non-profit organization, to provide Fair Housing Outreach within the City of Franklin.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises as contained herein, the parties hereto have agreed and hereby enter into this Agreement according to the provisions as set forth herein.

### **SECTION 1 - SCOPE OF SERVICES**

Working under the direction of the Assistant City Administrator for Community Development or his designee:

The Tennessee Fair Housing Council shall undertake development of Fair Housing Outreach as set forth in Exhibit A, which is referenced as if fully incorporated herein.

## **SECTION 2 - RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTIES**

- A. The Tennessee Fair Housing Council will perform the duties described above and take any actions necessary to accomplish the spirit of this Agreement.
- B. The Tehnessee Fair Housing Council will carry out activities necessary to guide any associated public meetings and notices relative to the counseling program.
- C. The Tennessee Fair Housing Council will submit regular reports (no less than quarterly) as directed by the City detailing the progress of their project.
- D. THE CITY will provide funding for the program from the CDBG program as set forth in Section 3 of this contract.
- E. Should a Fair Housing complaint against the City of Franklin be brought to Tennessee Fair Housing Council, since a conflict of Interest exists, Tennessee Fair Housing Council will be conflicted from taking further action against the City.
- F. Any communication by the Complainant of a legal or adversarial nature shall only be made to the Respondent through Respondent's legal department. Shauna Billingsley, attorney for the Respondent, shall serve as the point of contact for the Respondent's legal department. If the Respondent determines that another employee or other designee shall serve as the point of contact for the Respondent's legal department, the Respondent shall inform the Complainant, in writing, of such determination.

G. Funds received by Complainant as part of this contract shall not be used, under any circumstances, for any actions of a legal or adversarial nature against the Respondent.

## **SECTION 3 - COMPENSATION**

The Tennessee Fair Housing Council will receive up to Nineteen Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Five and 61/100 Dollars (\$19,485.61) for the services outlined herein from the Community Development Block Grant program for eligible expenses. (This is the amount reflected in the HUD Financial System as of today)

### **SECTION 4 - TIME OF PERFORMANCE**

Services shall be performed upon contract award and shall be completed no later than three-hundred sixty-five (365) days following execution of this Agreement.

The City has the option to renew this contract under the same terms and conditions for an additional twelve (12) months based on the availability of CDBG funds. Both parties shall agree to this extension in writing.

This Agreement may be terminated upon thirty (30) days written notice by either party for just cause.

## **SECTION 5 - PAYMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

THE CITY shall reimburse the Tennessee Fair Housing Council for services rendered based on submittal of valid invoices for project costs with a description and documentation of work performed. THE CITY has the option of inspecting the completed work prior to making any payments.

Invoices shall be submitted monthly including back up documentation for services rendered.

Final payment will be subject to receipt of a final report that is satisfactory to THE CITY.

### **SECTION 6 - NOTICES**

All notices under this Agreement shall be in writing and sent by certified mail to the address listed below for each party.

Kathleen L. Sauseda	Kathy Trawick, Executive Director
Housing Development Coordinator	Tennessee Fair Housing Council
109 3rd Avenue South	107 Music City Circle, Suite 318
Franklin, TN 37064	Nashville, TN 37214

## SECTION 7 - STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

## A. COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL LAWS/REGULATIONS

The Tennessee Fair Housing Council shall comply with all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations

in the performance of this Agreement.

## B. ANTIDISCRIMINATION/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

- No person on the grounds of handicap, age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, or marital/familial status or any other classification protected by Federal and/or State of Tennessee constitutional and/or statutory law-shall be excluded from participation in, or be denied benefits or, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the performance of this Contract. Antidiscrimination/Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity. The Tennessee Fair Housing Council is in compliance with Federal Code 2 CFR 200.318, 2 CFR 200.326 and CFR 200.318 (c) (1).
- 2. The Tennessee Fair Housing Council agrees to add section B, paragraph 1 to all contracts relative to this Contract and shall require their contractors to add the same paragraph in all sub-contracts relative to this Contract.

## **C. AUDIT REQUIREMENTS**

- 1. This Agreement, as well as any sub-agreement made with other participating agencies, is subject to all of the administrative requirements in OMB Circulars A-110 and A-122.
- 2. THE CITY hereby notifies the Tennessee Fair Housing Council that a single audit is required for non-profit agencies receiving \$500,000 or more in federal funds in any single fiscal year. This requirement is in accordance with OMB Circulars A-110 and A-133. If required, a copy of the single audit report will be kept on file and made available to the City staff during sub-recipient monitoring visits and appropriate officials as requested.

## D. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Tennessee Fair Housing Council agrees to abide by the following requirements with respect to conflicts of interest, and covenants that it presently has no interest, direct or indirect, and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of services required under this Agreement. The Tennessee Fair Housing Council further covenants that in the performance of this Agreement no person having such an interest, direct or indirect, shall be employed or retained by the Tennessee Fair Housing Council hereunder. These conflict of interest provisions apply to any person who is an employee, agent, consultant, officer, or elected official or appointed official of the Tennessee Fair Housing Council or of any designated public agencies or sub-recipients that are receiving funds under this program.

## **E. PROCUREMENT STANDARDS AND METHODS**

The Tennessee Fair Housing Council shall comply with THE CITY's current policy concerning the purchase of equipment and shall maintain inventory records of all non-expendable personal property as defined by such policy as may be procured with funds herein.

The Tennessee Fair Housing Council shall procure all materials, property, or services in accordance with the requirements of Attachment O of OMB Circular A-110, Procurement Standards.

## F. CHOICE OF LAW; VENUE

This Agreement is made under and will be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Tennessee without giving effect to that state's choice of law rules. In the event of a dispute of litigation arising out of this Agreement, it is understood and agreed that this Agreement was executed and performed in Williamson County, Tennessee, and as such, it is agreed by both parties that the forum and venue for said litigation, including an action for Declaratory Judgment, shall be exclusively in the courts of Williamson County, Tennessee.

## G. ASSIGNMENT

Neither THE CITY nor the Tennessee Fair Housing Council may assign its rights or delegate its responsibilities under this contract.

## H. ENTIRE CONTRACT AND MODIFICATION

The Agreement between the parties supersedes any prior or contemporaneous communications, representations or agreements between the parties, whether oral or written, regarding the subject matter of the entire Agreement. The terms and conditions of this Agreement may not be changed except by an amendment expressly referencing this Agreement by section number and signed by an authorized representative of each party.

If seeking any addition or modification to the Agreement, the parties agree to reference the specific paragraph number sought to be changed on any future document or purchase order issued in furtherance of the Agreement, however, an omission of the reference to same shall not affect its applicability. In no event shall either party be bound by any terms contained in any purchase order, acknowledgement, or other writings unless: (a) such purchase order, acknowledgement, or other writings specifically refer to the Agreement or to the specific clause they are intended to modify;

(b) clearly indicate the intention of both parties to override and modify the Agreement; and (c) such purchase order, acknowledgement, or other writings are signed, with specific material clauses separately initialed, by authorized representatives of both parties.

### I. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Agreement is held invalid, the remainder of the Agreement shall not be affected thereby and all other parts of this Agreement shall nevertheless be in full force and effect.

## J. TIME OF THE ESSENCE

The parties agree that TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE with respect to the parties' performance of all provisions of the Agreement.

## K. NO TAXES, NO INTEREST PAYMENTS

As a tax-exempt entity, THE CITY shall not be responsible for sales or use taxes incurred for products or services. THE CITY shall supply the Tennessee Fair Housing Council with its Sales and Use Tax Exemption Certificate upon the Tennessee Fair Housing Council's request. The Tennessee Fair Housing Council shall bear the burden of providing its suppliers with a copy of THE CITY's tax exemption certificate and shall

assume all liability for such taxes, if any, that should be incurred. THE CITY does not agree to pay any interest for late payments, having agreed to pay in a timely manner.

#### L. WAIVER

Neither party's failure nor delay to exercise any of its rights or powers under the Agreement will constitute or be deemed a waiver or forfeiture of those rights or powers. For a waiver of a right or power to be effective, it must be in writing signed by the waiving party. An effective waiver of a right or power shall not be construed as either (a) a future or continuing waiver of that same right or power, or (b) the waiver of any other right or power.

## M. BREACH

Upon deliberate breach of the Agreement by either party, the non-breaching party shall be entitled to terminate the Agreement without notice, with all of the remedies it would have in the event of termination, and may also have such other remedies as it may be entitled to in law or in equity.

### N. NO ATTORNEY-CLIENT RELATIONSHIP

By providing fair housing services to THE CITY, the Tennessee Fair Housing Council is not acting as THE CITY's attorney, and no attorney-client relationship has been or will be formed between the Tennessee Fair Housing Council and THE CITY or any of its employees or elected officials by virtue of these services.

No information provided during training or other services shall be construed as legal advice.

No communication that takes place during training of officials and/or employees of THE CITY shall be protected by attorney-client privilege. However, the Tennessee Fair Housing Council agrees that it will not use any communication received during training of officials and/or employees of THE CITY as the basis for any fair housing enforcement action.

THE CITY agrees to waive any claim of conflict of interest arising from the fair housing services the Council may be asked to provide.

WITNESS our hands on the date as entered above.

**CITY OF FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE** 

Fric S. Stuckey City Administrator

Date: 8-21-2019

Approved as to Form:

Shauna R. Billingsley, City Attorney

TENNESSEE FAIR HOUSING COUNCIL

CCK Date: 9

Authorized Signature

Tennessee Fair Housing Council

## Scope of Services for September 1, 2019-August 31, 2020

## **Direct Client Services**

The Tennessee Fair Housing Council proposes to carry out fair housing counseling for residents of Franklin. The counseling will consist of the following:

- Providing general educational information to individuals to inform them of their rights in conjunction with the Fair Housing Laws, landlord-tenant laws and availability of housing in Franklin.
- Speaking with aggrieved individuals to inform them of their rights pertaining to Fair Housing, landlord-tenant laws and availability of housing in Franklin.
- Interacting with a potentially aggrieved individual's housing provider to determine the housing provider's version of the facts (i.e., investigation.)
- Interacting with a housing provider to inform the housing provider of his or her obligations under applicable law, in order to bring relief to the aggrieved individual.
- Providing legal representation to an aggrieved individual, either as a defendant or plaintiff in housing-related litigation. (No litigation against the City of Franklin will be funded by this grant.)
- Speaking with and acting on behalf of individuals facing loss of Section 8 or public housing

## **Education and Outreach**

1. It is important to increase the education and outreach to the residents of Franklin. The Council will work with the CDBG office and the Franklin Housing Authority to evaluate opportunities for community outreach. The Council will man a table at a minimum of one event in order to pass out Fair Housing materials.

This might include events such as:

- o Health fairs
- o Community Festivals
- o Street fairs
- o Neighborhood Night Out
- 2. The Council will review the City of Franklin's most recent consolidated plan and work with the City to develop a minimum of one presentation geared towards addressing one or more of the top barrier's to fair housing. We will secure an appropriate location and appropriate presenters.

This presentation might be directed towards:

- o Realtors
- o Developers
- o City Officials
- o Apartment Management Companies, or

## o Homeowner's Associations

- 3. The Council will conduct testing on apartment complexes that are located in the CDBG enforcement area. The focus protected class will be persons with disabilities, race, and/or National Origin. Testing will be conducted by experienced testers, who have been trained in accordance with our HUD-approved testing methodology. Once testing is complete, a summarization will be included with the report. The results will determine if enforcement actions are warranted, or if communication with the housing provider is the better route.
- 4. The City participates in the Fair Housing Matters Conference in 2020; as well as making a \$500 contribution.
- 5. At the request of the City, Tennessee Fair Housing Council will make its personnel available for media interviews, a minimum of one meeting involving the City of Franklin or a committee of the City of Franklin, as well as, other outlets to make the general public aware of fair housing and landlord-tenant law in the City of Franklin
- 6. Over 50% of our clients are persons with disabilities. The Council will prepare a brochure specifically for persons with disabilities. We will mail the brochure along with the Rights to Fair Housing to apartment complexes in Franklin, and/or residents of communities governed by an HOA.