



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**

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**Agenda Item Number:** 33

**Agenda Date:** August 31, 2023

**In Control:** City Council A Session

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**DEPARTMENT:** Neighborhood and Housing Services

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Veronica Garcia, Director

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

Ordinance approving Home Rehab Program Delivery Funding Partnerships with four local non-profit organizations to assist homeowners with small-scale repairs to address health, safety and/or code issues for a total amount of \$525,000.00. Funding for these agreements is available from the General Fund FY 2023 Adopted Budget.

**SUMMARY:**

An ordinance approving funding agreements with four local non-profit organizations to assist homeowners with small-scale repairs to address health, safety and/or code issues. Funding for each non-profit is determined by organizational capacity and includes:

- A. Blueprint Ministries for an amount not to exceed \$125,000.00;
- B. Divine Redeemer for an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00;
- C. Operation Triage for an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00; and
- D. Rebuilding Together Austin for an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00.

Funding for these agreements is available from the General Fund FY 2023 Adopted Budget.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The Strategic Housing Implementation Plan (SHIP) includes housing preservation goals to meet the needs of the community for lower-income families. The SHIP's 10-year goal is to preserve 10,986 affordable homes and will require community-wide efforts to complete. For this reason, it is imperative that the City partner with local non-profits who assist homeowners with repairs to support their efforts and assist them with increasing capacity to assist more families with repairs.

NHSD has previously contracted with several non-profits including Blue Print Ministries, Divine Redeemer and Operation Triage to provide funding to assist with materials to carry out their respective missions to preserve housing for qualified families. These non-profits have demonstrated capability and quality of work to justify the City providing additional funding to support their services. The funding amounts vary by organization and is based on their individual capacity and will cover materials and labor necessary for the organization to complete the repairs. The non-profits will have one calendar year from the date of City Council approval to spend the funds. Below is a description of each nonprofit that will be assisted through this funding:

A. Blueprint Ministries assists low-income, physically disabled, and elderly homeowners with housing restoration. The program supports a variety of repairs such as building accessibility ramps, roof shingle repair and replacement, painting, flooring, doors, siding and windows. The funding would enable Blueprint Ministries to purchase materials to address repairs while leveraging assistance from volunteers for labor. Blueprint Ministries also organizes spring and summer mission camps where hundreds of middle and high school students from Texas and around the U.S. gather to complete home improvements and transform lives with their hard work.

B. Divine Redeemer assists residents within an area of Council District 5 in the 78207 zip code with home improvements. Divine's mission is to improve the lives of senior community homeowners experiencing challenges and needed improvements in their home. The repairs offered by this organization focus on safety and security and additional funding would support cost for materials and labor while completing most projects with assistance from volunteers.

C. Operation Triage assists disabled veterans, first responders and active-duty service members with various services to include home remodeling and renovations. This organization supports residents with a variety of repairs such as plumbing, electrical, foundation, structural repairs, kitchen & bathroom rehabilitations, and accessibility modifications. The funding would assist Operation Triage to pay for materials and labor to complete repairs. Operation Triage also partners with corporate sponsors, builder associations, developers, individual contributors, and volunteers to assist with the residential repairs.

D. Rebuilding Together Austin is in the process of adding the San Antonio area to their portfolio and plan to change their name to Rebuilding Together Austin-San Antonio in 2024. They assist vulnerable community residents and organizes Community Revitalization Partnerships to improve entire communities within a targeted area. The program provides a variety of repairs to target significant health and safety hazards based on each homeowner's needs. The funding will enable Rebuilding Together Austin to purchase materials needed to address project repairs while utilizing community partners, volunteers, donors and contractors for assistance with labor.

**ISSUE:**

NHSD and local non-profit organizations are collaborating to maximize resources to assist families with repairs to their homes necessary to address health, safety and/or code issues. Funding to the non-profits may not be used for administrative costs and only for materials and labor. The non-profit organizations will leverage funding from other sources to add to the funds they receive from the city and will coordinate participant selection, qualification and completion of the repairs. Furthermore, this partnership will enhance the City's support of non-profits and assistance to build capacity to meet SHIP goals.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

City Council may decide not to award funding to local non-profit organizations to complete residential repairs. However, this would prevent an opportunity to partner with entities that can help the City meet the home preservation goals of the SHIP.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Ordinance approving Home Rehab Program Delivery Funding Partnerships with four local non-profit organizations to assist homeowners with small-scale repairs to address health, safety and/or code issues for a total amount of \$525,000.00. Funding for these agreements is available from the General Fund FY 2023 Adopted Budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval to provide local non-profit organizations funding for an amount not to exceed \$525,000.00 to facilitate minor repairs to eligible homes to address health, safety and/or code issues for residents.