

Memorandum of Understanding
Between
Community Services League of Jackson County
AND
The City of Independence, Missouri

Background

Community Services League (CSL) is the largest provider of homeless outreach services in the City of Independence (COI). Most people, housed or unhoused, want to work. Jobs provide routines for individuals, promote sobriety, self-control, and other admirable qualities. COI is home to many individuals that live on the streets or other habitats that are not ideal for healthy lifestyles.

It is well documented and discussed that trash is very prevalent in COI and all over the Kansas City metropolitan area. Much of the trash blows out of commercial/residential dumpsters, and out of trash trucks along the road. Further cleaning up of COI, especially the parks, historical sites, shopping districts, and main thoroughfares will improve the overall perception of COI.

To address the issues described above, CSL and COI will engage in a pilot project to provide meaningful job opportunities to homeless residents of COI.

To qualify for this opportunity, individuals must be:

- 1) Living on the streets or in their car
- 2) Living temporarily in a hotel or motel
- 3) "Couch surfing" with friends or family
- 4) Unaccompanied minors
- 5) Living in half-way houses or sobriety houses
- 6) In a CSL transitional housing program
- 7) Those with disabilities

Current Program Opportunities

CSL supports homeless individuals and providing temporary jobs is a step in securing both a permanent job and stable housing. It is extremely difficult to go from homelessness to housed without substantial supports along the way, including the opportunity to earn money.

CSL and COI agree to the following program guidelines:

- 1) CSL will supervise a crew of workers to address the community litter problem.
- 2) CSL will provide, on average, 166 hours of cleaning per week for the 27 weeks between March 27-September 29.
- 3) CSL will use a trailer to haul off trash bags from the side of the roads and will invite local trash haulers (and/or MoDOT) to assist in collection. The program will be compliant with all laws regarding various types of waste disposal.

- 4) All workers will be trained and supervised by CSL and will follow the agency's Personnel Policy Manual.
- 5) CSL will offer a minimum wage of \$12/hour that will be paid daily, and all workers will be 1099 contract employees.
- 6) All workers will qualify for \$300 in housing support after working 100 hours, and \$300 for every subsequent 100 hours worked. CSL may also be able to help workers with additional housing support as grants/funds allow.
- 7) CSL will, to the best of its ability, connect its homeless workers to mainstream benefits and resources.
- 8) CSL will, to the best of its ability, coach the participants into new, full-time employment after gaining skills and experience through this program.
- 9) CSL will, to the best of its ability, attempt to place its workers in permanent housing.
- 10) CSL will ensure its workers are properly trained, supervised, and given proper direction.
- 11) CSL will ensure its workers are wearing proper work attire and will provide proper supplies to workers to successfully complete their job.
- 12) CSL will maintain a general liability policy with minimum limits of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) each occurrence and statutory workers' compensation during the entirety of this agreement. CSL will include COI as an additional insured on CSL's general liability policy. CSL will provide COI with a Certificate of Insurance each year. Additionally, CSL releases all liability from COI. CSL is completely liable for any and all injuries that may occur to its staff, homeless workers, and any other employee. COI will not be held liable for any injuries to CSL's staff, homeless workers, or any other employee, including but not limited to: cuts, scrapes, bruises, lesions, abrasions, sprains, fractured bones, broken bones, blindness; severed limbs, or death.
- 13) COI will provide CSL with trash bags, trash cans, and high visibility vests for the workers.
- 14) COI will provide CSL with one hundred thousand dollars (**\$100,000**) for the pilot project, to be distributed as follows:
 - a. **\$67,500** (4,500 hours of trash cleanup @ \$15/hour = \$67,500 (\$12/hour wage and \$3/hour in housing supports) March 27, 2023 - September 29, 2023 (27 weeks) – an average of 166 hours worked per week, or an average of a crew of five working seven hours a day, five days a week (with some variance for holidays, special events, etc.).
 - b. **\$25,000**: For supervisor, transportation, supplies/equipment.
 - c. **\$7,500**: For payment processing, accounting, and coaching.
- 15) COI will allow the project to continue for an additional three (3) years beyond the pilot phase, if mutually agreed upon by the parties.

This MOU shall remain in effect until modified or terminated by either party. Either party may terminate this agreement by providing written notice to the City of Independence City Manager or the Community Services League CEO; upon receipt of written notice, this MOU shall terminate thirty (30) days thereafter.

Signed By:

City of Independence, City Manager

Community Services League, CEO