



May 17, 2021

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1041 South Boulevard
Oak Park, IL 60302
(708) 848-7150
www.oprhc.org

Cara Pavlicek, Village Manager
Village of Oak Park
123 Madison St.
Oak Park, IL 60302

SENT VIA: Electronic Mail

RE: Request for an amendment to VOP General Fund 2021 Contract, Section 11

Dear Manager Pavlicek,

The purpose of this correspondence is to bring attention to the status of the 2019 Audit, and to request an amendment. In response to recent activities regarding the submission of the OPRHC 2019 Audit, I would like to work with you and any others to set forth the following: an amendment to section 11.2 to provide the release of funds due under the 2020 Fund Agreement; and to amend section 11.3 to provide the 2020 Audit no later than November 30, 2021 while setting forth to release all Village (HUD and otherwise) 2021 Funding. Please note, the recent activities that took place during the 2019 Audit was a result of COVID-19 related stressors and by no means was there any intent to exploit the relationship of OPRHC and VOP.

Moving forward, as times and current landscapes have changed, I would like the opportunity to review the most recent OPRHC strategic plan with an effort to engage Village Board members and or staff to work with OPRHC to establish a new contract while we evaluate pass, current, and future scope of services as may be contracted with VOP. It is my hope that we can work together to establish the next 50 years of service from Oak Park Regional Housing Center.

Per your request, as an addendum to this letter, provided is a list of activities taken place by the OPRHC Board of Directors. Again, it is my hope that we can establish a broader communication to work together for the good of the Oak Park Village. Thank you in advance for any support that is provided to the Oak Park Regional Housing Center.

Sincerely,

Athena Williams

Athena Williams
Executive Director

CC: Vicki Scaman, President, Village of Oak Park
Fabiola Candlish, Board President, Oak Park Regional Housing Center

OAK PARK REGIONAL HOUSING CENTER

ADDENDUM TO: *Request for an amendment to VOP General Fund 2021 Contract, Section 11*

OPRHC Board of Directors 2020 Activities

1. Recruit Finance Department Staff:
 - a) CPA
 - b) Bookkeeper
 - c) Office Administrator

There were several referrals and candidates that were interviewed. Overtime, there were 11 individuals interviewed and four different hires until we established the team we currently have.

2. Recruit a Development Coordinator. There were three referrals, only one was receptive to the position, however that individual tested COVID positive prior to onboarding and therefore declined the position, particularly since it was required to work in-person for the first 90 days.
3. Recruit Potential Board Members. Several recruitments have been attempted. Most candidates have stated the OPRHC is too political and always in the Oak Park media with funding issues. We are still vehemently seeking Board Member candidates and would welcome your support for recommendations.
4. Manage the Digital Transformation. One of our board members is managing the App, Client Management Database customization, online registration, and the IT infrastructure rebuild. All of this has to happen before the App can be further established. Please recall, the App prototype was initiated in 2019.
5. Manage the Technical Assistance Programming. The same board member is managing the replication of our Affirmative Furthering Fair Housing services in Maryland and Ohio. In addition, we are working with Richard Rothstein to write a new book about residential integration.
6. Management of Strategic Planning. One of our Board Members is managing our strategic mapping with Gloria Cox and a few other Oak Park community residents.