
MEMORANDUM

COM-C 8-2020

Subject: 2019-RFP-310 – Housing with Supports – Housing First Request for Proposal Award Results

Date: March 10, 2020

To: Public Health and Social Services Committee

From: Adrienne Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services

The review of 2019-RFP-310 – Housing with Supports – Housing First was conducted as outlined in COM 29-2019 for the funding period April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2023. The selection process was undertaken by an Evaluation Review Committee, which included representation from another municipal service system manager and staff members from Niagara Regional Housing, Niagara Region Public Health, Finance and Community Services. Niagara Regional staff have now completed negotiations of 2019-RFP-310 – Housing with Supports – Housing First, and the results of the evaluation of proposals are as follows:

Successful agency:

Gateway Residential & Community Support Services of Niagara Inc.

The successful agency is a lead agency in a consortium with two other agencies (Southridge Community Church and Niagara Resource Service for Youth (The RAFT)). This results in one award with one contract for this service area. This agency is also the successful lead agency in a consortium with the same two agencies (Southridge Community Church and Niagara Resource Service for Youth (The RAFT)) for the Home for Good (intensive supportive housing) service area. This allows for seamless transfers between the two programs as levels of support needed for individuals often changes over time.

The successful agency will work with Niagara Region to provide a recovery-oriented approach to ending homelessness that centers on quickly moving people experiencing homelessness into independent and permanent housing and providing additional supports and services as needed.

The successful agency will support individuals experiencing chronic and/or episodic homelessness with mid to high acuity of need to obtain and retain stable housing. This will also help to reduce pressure on Niagara's shelter system, and alleviate pressures in other areas of Niagara's health and social service system (e.g. emergency room visits.).

The successful agency will identify goals, assess needs, work with support services and participants to develop personal support and housing plans. This will enable clients to retain their housing and increase their quality of life.

Committee is receiving this memo for information as the awarded value of this RFP falls within staff's delegated authority as per the Procurement By-Law. Consistent with the Negotiated RFP process, Niagara Region staff negotiated with the top ranked agency to ensure standardized levels of service, training opportunities for staff and to be able to award agencies within the 2020 approved budget.

Respectfully submitted and signed by:

Adrienne Jugley, MSW, RSW, CHE
Commissioner