

Open Door Survivor Housing

Proposal for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Lubbock County August 12, 2021

Overview: Open Door, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization based in Lubbock, TX has been the recipient of Victims of Crimes Act (VOCA) funds, administered by the Texas Office of the Governor, since October 2018 for the operation of Open Door Survivor Housing, a transitional housing program serving adult survivors of sex trafficking and their children. The program provides transitional housing in scattered-site, private apartments for periods of up to 18-months with therapeutic supportive services such as counseling, childcare, education and employment assistance, food, and transportation. To date, Survivor Housing has provided safe housing to 60 adult survivors with 30 children and referral services to hundreds of others. In the second quarter of 2021, Survivor Housing received 26 new applications from survivors in need of safe housing.

In March 2021, Open Door first received notice from the Texas Office of the Governor about the funding crisis looming ahead of the start of the next project year, October 1, 2021. Deposits in the the Crime Victims Fund (CVF), a non-taxpayer source of funding funded by monetary penalties associated with federal criminal convictions, are historically low. The impact of the COVID pandemic, with federal courts experiencing unprecedented delays throughout 2020 and into 2021, have dramatically decreased the funds that are typically deposited into the CVF. Due to declining balances in the fund, the FY21 "cap" is about \$2B, which is a 24% decrease from 2020 (\$2.6B). On July 29, 2021, Open Door received notice from the TX Office of the Governor awarding \$157,000 for the upcoming project year, a shortfall of \$952,285 from the requested amount of \$1,109,285.

Open Door is seeking Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to make up for this funding shortfall and sustain Open Door Survivor Housing through the next project year (Oct '21-Sep '22) while it establishes other funding sources to sustain it beyond this immediate crisis.

Total Funds Requested from Lubbock County: \$952,285 to provide:

- Long-term, transitional housing for 20-25 adult survivors of sex trafficking and 10-15 children during this period (\$263,710).
- Case management, counseling, outreach, and supportive services for survivors (including employment of 5 survivors of sex trafficking) (\$471,591).
- Other supportive services and operating costs such as childcare, groceries, transportation, therapeutic supplies, security, and technology costs (\$216,984).

Contact Chad Wheeler, Open Door CEO, for additional information. chad@opendoorlbk.org, 806-696-3628

Organizational Detail

Legal Name: Lubbock Open Door

Tax Designation: 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation

Address: 1918 13th St, Lubbock, TX 79401

Federal Tax ID #: 51-0687541 State incorporation: Texas

DUNS: 780059320

Contact Information

Primary Contact: Chad Wheeler

Title: Chief Executive Officer

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Project Information

Project Title: Open Door Survivor Housing County of Operation: Lubbock County

Type: Transitional Housing
Project Year: 10/1/21 - 09/30/22

Project Abstract:

Open Door Survivor Housing provides 14 units of scattered-site transitional housing with therapeutic supportive services for adult survivors of sex trafficking and their children for periods of up to 18-months. Transitional housing is provided in fully furnished apartments, with on-site support from former graduates of Open Door Survivor Housing. Case management, licensed counseling, childcare for victims with children, and other supportive services are provided to assist survivors and their child to help alleviate their trauma and empower them to affect crisis resolution.

2018-2021 Budget

The project was previously on a 3-year cycle. Total funding awarded to Open Door during this period was \$2,400,709.50 (\$800,236.50 annual average). This project cycle and all associated funding ends 09/30/2021.

2021-2022 Project Year Budget

Open Door submitted an application to the Texas Office of the Governor on 02/09/2021, requesting a total of \$1,109,285 to fund Open Door Survivor Housing.

Activity	Description	TX OOG Award	Requested Amount	Combined Budget
Transitional Housing	Leasing 14 units, utilities, and other housing costs.		\$ 263,710.00	\$ 263,710.00
Direct Service Staff	Case management, counseling, outreach, advocacy.	\$ 157,000.00	\$ 471,591.00	\$ 628,591.00
Supportive Services and Operating Costs	Childcare, groceries, transportation, therapeutic supplies, security, technology and other program operation costs.		\$ 216,984.00	\$ 216,984.00
		\$ 157,000.00	\$ 952,285.00	\$ 1,109,285.00