

**Request for Action
By
Board of Commissioners**

**Approval of LeadSafe Homes Program Partner
(Green and Healthy Homes Initiative)**

1. Summary of Request

This Request for Action (“RFA”) is for approval to engage Green and Healthy Homes Initiative (“GHHI”) as a subgrantee to provide community-based approaches to serve low-income families through a partnership with the LeadSafe Homes Program (“LSHP”) administered by Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (“RIHousing”).

The LSHP provides financial assistance to eligible homeowners across the state to remediate their properties of lead-based paint hazards. RIHousing oversees and coordinates all activities around this remediation, including engaging contractors and subgrantees to perform outreach and relocation services. The LSHP is funded through a 2019 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) High Impact Neighborhood Grant (the “2019 HUD Grant”) that targets properties in Central Falls, East Providence, Pawtucket and Newport, as well as state funding that serves households in other parts of the state.

A Request for Proposals (“RFP”) was issued in December 2024 seeking proposals from qualified organizations to provide various services in furtherance of the LSHP. Such services included outreach, application assistance, and packing and relocation services, among others. Three proposals were received, and a committee consisting of the Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer and staff from the LeadSafe Homes Department reviewed and scored the proposals according to the criteria outlined in the RFP. While the scope of the RFP was wide-ranging and requested a proposed partner to provide a variety of services, in order to fit the limited budget allocation available from the 2019 HUD Grant, staff has decided to narrow the scope of this partnership to the area that provides the most benefit to the program and whose function is not otherwise fulfilled. Accordingly, this RFA requests approval for engagement of one partner to provide packing and relocation education, outreach, and assistance.

A key element of the lead remediation process is proactive planning, education, and assistance with tenant relocation during construction. The relocation process generally requires a series of outreach attempts, site visits, and in-person demonstrations to ensure each unit is properly packed prior to the anticipated construction start date.

Committed for over 30 years to breaking the link between unhealthy housing and unhealthy families, GHHI is a national leader in the fields of lead poisoning prevention and healthy homes. GHHI works across the nation within local communities to coordinate people and agencies, leading efforts to work through existing administrative infrastructure to improve service delivery for low-income families living in unhealthy, unsafe, and energy inefficient homes.

GHHI will be engaged for a term of one (1) year to coincide with the closeout of the 2019 HUD grant concluding on December 31, 2025. The engagement with GHHI will include a budget cap of \$50,000, subject to availability.

2. Recommendation

The attached resolution approving the engagement of Green and Healthy Homes Initiative is recommended for approval.

3. Attachments

- A. Resolution
- B. Scoring Matrix

Attachment A
Resolution of the Board of Commissioners
of
Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation

WHEREAS: the enabling act of the Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (“RIHousing”) provides the agency with all the powers to make and execute contracts necessary for the exercise of its functions under the Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation Act, R.I. Gen. Laws §42-55-5(6);

WHEREAS: RIHousing has determined that it is in the best interests of the corporation to engage an entity to provide packing, education, and relocation services as a subgrantee of RIHousing’s LeadSafe Homes Program (“LSHP”);

WHEREAS: RIHousing issued a Request for Proposals (“RFP”) for qualified firms; and

WHEREAS: staff reviewed the proposals according to the criteria outlined in the RFP and have determined that Green and Healthy Homes Initiative is qualified to provide this service for LSHP.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY:

RESOLVED: that RIHousing be, and hereby is, authorized to engage Green and Healthy Homes Initiative for an amount not to exceed \$50,000 to provide outreach, packing, education, and relocation services to RIHousing’s LSHP, as such services are set forth in the RFP and Green and Healthy Homes Initiative’s proposal submitted in response thereto, subject to the availability of such funds; and

RESOLVED: that the Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director, and Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer, each acting singly, be and hereby are authorized and empowered to negotiate terms, execute contracts, instruments and/or documents, and take any other actions necessary or desirable to carry out the foregoing resolution.