

#051022

Skell, Rosemary A.

From: Hirneise, Debra
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2006 3:08 PM
To: 'Gordon Tremaine'
Cc: citymgr; citycomm; Lannon, Kurt M.
Subject: RE: shelter funds

From: Gordon Tremaine [mailto:tremaine@holytrinitygnv.org]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2006 1:02 PM
To: mayor
Subject: [QUARANTINE] shelter funds

Your Honor,

This e-mail serves as a formal request on behalf of Holy Trinity Church, Alachua County Coalition for the Homeless and Hungry (ACCHH) and Alachua County Housing Authority (ACHA). These are the three agencies co-sponsoring the two winter night emergency housing initiatives being supported by the city in conjunction with the grant from Mr. Butler.

As you are aware, these initiatives consist of:

1. The night shelter in HTEC's parish hall
2. the hotel voucher program

We believe that it is essential that we as sponsoring agencies be efficient stewards of the fiscal resources committed by the city and Mr. Butler. For this reason we are seeking an amendment to the original contracts allowing us discrimination in moving funds from one program to the other as need and financial prudence dictates. These funds are all intended to accomplish the same purpose, and are all being administered through the same three partner agencies.

As I told you yesterday, our shelter has been far more highly utilized than anticipated, allowing us to be highly discriminating and judicious in our implementation of the voucher program. I believe that we can actually save the city substantial funds by transferring money from one program to the other. Absent such freedom, we will have no choice but to grossly expand our use of private hotel rooms to house large numbers of people in the closing weeks of this winter night period. This would be inefficient, wasteful, and quite unnecessary.

I had requested this language be included at the meeting during which our RFP's were approved, and sensed general willingness to provide it on the part of the commission. It was, however, not included in the original contracts. Please urge the Commission to provide us this freedom now.

2/23/2006

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Thank you for your consideration and for the Commission's continued support.

The Rev. Dr. Gordon H. Tremaine
Rector, HTEC
Chair, ACCHH