

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**Volunteers of America Texas, Inc.**

AND

**Tarrant County Sheriff's Office**

Volunteers of America Texas, Inc. (VOATX) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization focused on employment and training, corrections, and community supervision. VOATX seeks to provide services within the Tarrant County Jail with the goal of reducing recidivism, promoting reentry success and wellbeing in individuals returning from incarceration, building connections to local employers that will enable returning citizens to secure employment, and advancing equity for individuals facing significant barriers to labor market reentry, including incarcerated women and communities of color.

VOATX will collaborate with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office, which has not participated in the Department of Labor (DOL) Pathway Home Program nor are they currently participating in a Pathway Home Program. VOATX proposes to deliver supportive services to male and female adult clients prior to release and after release, adults aged 18 or older who have been convicted under federal, state, or local law and are incarcerated in Tarrant County Jail with a scheduled release date within 20 to 270 days of enrollment in the project.

VOATX's and the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office are commitment to implementing workforce services for adult offenders re-entering communities in the Dallas/Fort Worth metropolitan area. To further improve the availability of services for eligible program participants, the partners agree to make available the following resources to ensure effective development and implementation of the program:

### **Volunteers of America Texas**

VOATX will be responsible for financial and program administration and oversight, including the preparation and submission of requisite program and financial reports, insurance of confidentiality, maintenance of records, and managing, dispersing, and accounting for all federal funds received for the grant program. Additionally, VOATX will provide the following services to program participants and partners:

- Will expand their career training programs informed by labor market needs in the geographic areas where incarcerated individuals will return.
- Will continually assess local demand for employees in the geographic areas to which incarcerated individuals are likely to return and adjust educational and employment goals.
- Will make available a comprehensive range of programs and a process for addressing the needs of 120 individuals returning from incarceration including the following:
  - Re-entry services (Pre-Release and Post-Release Services/Transitional) - trauma-informed care services, Individual Service Plans (ISPs), community resource navigation, and referrals.
  - Assessments and Case Management - TABE testing referrals, O-NET Interest Profiler, Job-Readiness assessment, Individual Career Plan (ICP)
  - Financial Services- financial education and individual financial coaching focused on solving financial problems, planning for financial stability, and connecting to quality financial service providers.
  - Employment Services - work with local employers, to identify and develop employment and training opportunities for FOC clients with criminal records; Job-readiness courses.
  - Vocational Training and Education - collaborate with Family Pathfinders of Tarrant County to provide contextualized basic education and needed workplace skills.
- Will collaborate with Family Pathfinders of Tarrant County who will provide the following pre- and post-release services to qualified participants:
  - Mentoring and Life Skills Services
  - Financial Coaching
  - Family Reunification Services
  - Financial Services

- Will collaborate with law enforcement, corrections, and other partners to collect data and measure program outcomes.
- Will comply with all security requirements of the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office to have access to the facility.
- Will follow any facility requirements for incarcerated individuals' participation and selection deemed appropriate by the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office.

#### **Tarrant County Sheriff's Office**

- Will provide VOATX employees reasonable access to those portions of the jail facilities necessary for VOATX to perform its responsibilities under this agreement.
- Will provide alternatives for identified program participants that need to complete coursework which may include workbooks, applications, or related employment materials.
- Will provide dedicated space within the Tarrant County Jail locations for the program staff to conduct grant activities, which will include classes provided by Family Pathfinders and case management services/employment supports provided by Volunteers of America Texas.
- Will meet monthly with VOATX Program staff to discuss any operational or technical issues, accommodations or strategies needed for particular inmate cases.
- Will collaborate with VOATX and its partners to create and implement a workforce services and reentry strategy.
- Will provide pertinent demographic data to complete necessary reports required by the federal agency or research partner and submit all information within timeframes that allow VOATX to meet any established reporting deadlines.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this MOU, the parties agree and understand that the Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn, his successors in office, or his designees, may in their sole discretion deny entry into the jail at any time to any agent of VOATX. Each agency shall have the authority to terminate its participation for its convenience upon sixty (60) days with prior written notice to signatories listed below. Additionally, each agency agrees to develop a more formal contractual agreement during the Planning Phase to better document each agency's roles


and responsibilities related to program administration, provision of direct services, and data collection and sharing. Together, we agree that the services shall be provided for the benefit of qualified participants of the Program, subject to the availability of resources.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall be effective upon signature and reviewed annually. It shall remain in force for the entire grant period which begins on July 1, 2024 and continues through January 1, 2028.

AGREED TO AND SIGNED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Authorized Applicant**

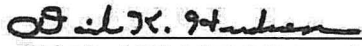
Angela King  
Volunteers of America Texas, Inc.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Authorized Partner**

Sheriff Bill E. Waybourn  
Tarrant County Sheriff's Office

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

3-15-24



Criminal District Attorney's Office\*

\*By law, the Criminal District Attorney's Office may only approve contracts for its clients. We reviewed this document as to form from our client's legal perspective. Other parties may not rely on this approval. Instead those parties should seek contract review from independent counsel.

**SIGNED AND EXECUTED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

**COUNTY OF TARRANT  
STATE OF TEXAS**

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Tim O'Hare  
County Judge  
Tarrant County Commissioners Court