RESOLUTION NO. ________

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT WITH OUR HOUSE, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED EIGHTY THOUSAND DOLLARS ($80,000.00), FOR THE PURPOSE OF MANAGEMENT, IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATION OF A RESOURCE HOTLINE AS A CONTINUATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE FINANCIAL NAVIGATORS GRANT PREVIOUSLY FUNDED THROUGH CITIES FOR FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT, AS ENDORSED BY THE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, remains committed to assisting low-income, homeless, and near-homeless individuals and families, a population particularly hard-hit by the economic fallout of the COVID-19 Pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has shown its support for aiding community members experiencing a host of challenges and hardships; and,

WHEREAS, Our House, the City of Little Rock’s non-profit partner, has a thirty-three (33)-year track record of connecting vulnerable individuals and families to a suite of wrap-around services; and,

WHEREAS, in a survey of clients who had been impacted by the Pandemic, Our House found that 66% of the population it serves had lost employment or had their hours cut. Respondents shared that they had experienced dramatic increases in stress levels (68%) due to factors like financial insecurity, social isolation, housing instability, lack of childcare and joblessness; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Little Rock’s Community Programs Department provides quality Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment (PIT) Programming that utilizes citizen involvement, evidence-based practices and standardized processes with the goal of increasing positive outcomes and the quality of life for all citizens; and,

WHEREAS, staff found in a survey of clients impacted by the Pandemic, 55% of the individuals was experiencing a high level of need during this time; and,

WHEREAS, the Resources Hotline enabled Our House and staff to continue to provide a remote “one-stop-shop” and log approximately 18,549 hours for 5,670 Little Rock residents, leveraging the networks, resources, and institutional know-how of both municipal and community-based non-profit partners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:
Section 1. The City Manager is authorized to extend the contract, in an amount not to exceed Eighty Thousand Dollars ($80,000.00), with Our House for the expressed purpose to continue the Resources Hotline Initiative, providing free remote-based financial triage and guide clients to a range of national and local programs, services, and resources, in alignment with the model requirements as established by the original grant from the Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund.

Section 2. Funds available through a contract using the 2023 PIT Allocation, Account No. 108159-S15C515.

Section 3. The term for the contract listed in Section 1 of this resolution shall be for a period no longer than one (1)-year starting April 1, 2023, and ending on March 31, 2024.

Section 4. Our House will report to Community Programs Staff and will cooperate and confer with him/her as necessary to insure satisfactory work progress.

Section 5. The City Manager shall be satisfied with a plan to operate a remote “one-stop-shop” for residents of Little Rock, leveraging the networks, re-sources, and institutional know-how of both municipal and community-based non-profit partners in advance of disbursement of the funds.

Section 6. All payments are conditioned upon entry into contracts for services that are in a form acceptable to the City Attorney; further, nothing in this resolution prevents the City from being able to offer similar services to any vendor if, in its sole discretion, it decides to do so.

Section 7. Severability. In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this resolution is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of this resolution, which shall remain in full force and effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional were not originally a part of the resolution.

Section 8. Repealer. All laws, ordinances and resolutions, or parts of the same, that are inconsistent with the provisions of this resolution, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

ADOPTED: March 21, 2023

ATTEST: 

APPROVED:

_________________________________________  ____________________________________
Susan Langley, City Clerk        Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

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Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney

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