



Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL

Legislation Text

File #: 16-5876, **Version:** 1

PROPOSED INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT AMENDMENT

Department(s): Office of the Chief Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County

Other Part(ies): Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA), Chicago, Illinois

Request: Authorization to Increase by \$283,486.00 and extend for six months, until 5/31/2017 an interagency agreement

Good(s) or Service(s): Housing counseling and telephone helpline management services for the Circuit Court's Mortgage Foreclosure Mediation Program

Agreement period: 12/1/2013, through 11/30/2016.

Fiscal Impact: \$283,486.00

Accounts: 310-260

Agreement Number(s): Not applicable

Summary: Under this proposed increase and extension of the interagency agreement, the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) will continue to operate a toll-free helpline service and manage and administer housing counseling services as a part of the Circuit Court's Mortgage Foreclosure Mediation Program.

Families facing foreclosure call the IHDA's helpline to receive important information on the foreclosure process and to set up an appointment with a HUD-certified housing counseling agency. Families receive the housing counseling services from IHDA's seven (7) HUD-certified subcontractors which were selected after a rigorous application process and are located throughout Cook County. Services include: one-on-one housing counseling with families; assistance with applying for loan modifications; and identification of other options to avoid foreclosure whenever possible. Each family receives an average of four (4), one-on-one counseling sessions. As of 6/30/2016, IHDA's subcontractors assisted more than 155,000 families through the helpline, provided more than 87,000 families with free one-on-one initial housing counseling sessions, and conducted more than 300 housing counseling workshops throughout Cook County at which almost 9,000 families received assistance.

The increase and extension are necessary as Request for Proposals (RFPs) are in process for these services, as well as other program services, including mediation, legal aid and community outreach. Completion of the RFPs has been delayed due to the uncertainty of funding availability.