

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVAL TO CONTRACT WITH OPENHEALTH ADVISORS LLC  
TO PROVIDE VOLUNTARY COVID-19 TESTING FOR  
LOUISVILLE METRO HOUSING AUTHORITY RESIDENTS AND STAFF**

Item No. 5j

WHEREAS, accessing testing for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) can be challenging for many participants in Louisville Metro Housing Authority's (LMHA) public housing (PH) and Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) programs, especially those who are elderly, frail or have transportation issues or childcare needs; and

WHEREAS, many of LMHA's employees interact directly with other staff and residents on a regular basis and in high density environments, and could benefit from easy access to COVID-19 testing on an ongoing basis; and

WHEREAS, OpenHealth Advisors LLC, the company currently holding the Kentucky State contract for COVID-19 testing, can provide testing on location at LMHA properties and offices, including at individual apartments for persons who are homebound or at high risk; and

WHEREAS, Sensiva Health, a national COVID testing laboratory that will working with OpenHealth Advisors, can conduct tests and directly bill Medicare, Medicaid and other insurance providers for persons with coverage and invoice LMHA for non-insured or underinsured PH and HCV program participants and/or part-time employees without health coverage; and

WHEREAS, LMHA has allocated up to \$200,000 in CARES Act Supplemental Operating Funds that are available through December 31st, to cover the cost of testing for non-insured or underinsured individuals.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LOUISVILLE METRO HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that the Executive Director and Contracting Officer, Lisa Osanka, is hereby authorized to contract with OpenHealth Advisors LLC for COVID-19 testing in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.

## RESOLUTION BACKGROUND STATEMENT

### **APPROVAL TO CONTRACT WITH OPENHEALTH ADVISORS LLC TO PROVIDE VOLUNTARY COVID-19 TESTING FOR LOUISVILLE METRO HOUSING AUTHORITY RESIDENTS AND STAFF**

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#### **I. STATEMENT OF FACTS:**

While COVID-19 testing is currently available throughout the Louisville Metro area, many participants in LMHA's public housing (PH) and Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) programs are frail, elderly, or have mobility or other health concerns that make it difficult or risky for them to access these services. Others lack transportation or the necessary childcare that would allow them to easily access testing sites. The discomfort involved in the nasal swab form of testing currently being offered at these testing sites is also a deterrent to following the Center for Disease Control's recommendations for testing.

Many LMHA employees must also regularly and directly interact with other staff and residents, increasing their potential exposure to the virus. Repeated and easily accessible opportunities to COVID-19 testing would be a tremendous benefit to these employees.

OpenHealth Advisors and Sensiva Health, a national COVID testing laboratory working with OpenHealth, have the capability and capacity to conduct testing on location at LMHA properties and offices, including at individual apartments for persons who are homebound or at high risk, and can directly bill Medicare, Medicaid and other insurance providers for persons with health care coverage and invoice LMHA for non-insured or underinsured PH and HCV program participants and/or part-time employees without coverage. They also have access to the latest approved COVID testing options, including the new oral saliva testing method, which is preferred over nasal swab testing due to ease of collection and reduction of discomfort, especially for elderly and vulnerable patients, as well as COVID antibody tests. Positive test results reporting, contact tracing and repeated testing in response to any outbreaks will be coordinated with the Jefferson County Health Department and the Kentucky Health Information Exchange.

Any testing costs not covered by individual insurance coverage, will be billed to LMHA and paid from the \$200,000 in CARES Act Supplemental Operating Funds that LMHA has allocated for testing from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which are available through December 31st, to cover the cost of testing for non-insured or underinsured individuals.

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#### I. STATEMENT OF FACTS (cont'd):

This resolution will authorize Executive Director and Contracting Officer, Lisa Osanka to enter into a contract with OpenHealth Advisors to provide COVID-19 testing for participants in LMHA's PH and HCV programs, and for LMHA staff members.

#### II. ALTERNATIVES:

- A. Approve a Resolution in support of entering into a contract with OpenHealth Advisors LCC, the company currently holding the Kentucky State contract to provide COVID-19 testing for participants in LMHA's PH and HCV programs and staff.
- B. Do not approve a Resolution in support of entering into a contract with OpenHealth to provide COVID-19 testing for participants in LMHA's PH and HCV programs, and staff.

#### III. RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends Alternative "A".

#### IV. JUSTIFICATION:

- The provision of easily accessible and ongoing COVID-19 testing opportunities for participants in LMHA's PH and HCV programs and LMHA staff, which is currently recommended for persons living or working in high density environments, can increase and help contain the further spread of this highly contagious virus.
- OpenHealth is able to coordinate with local, territorial, and state health departments to provide test results, contact tracing, and repeat testing opportunities in response to any outbreaks.
- The cost of testing will be billed and paid through insurance for those with individual coverage, or with CARES Act Supplemental Funds for persons without insurance coverage.

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**IV. JUSTIFICATION (cont'd):**

- Procurement was satisfied through Kentucky State contract, MA-758-2000000505.

**V. BUDGET APPROVAL:**

Funding for the portion of this project that is not paid through individual insurance coverage will be provided through HUD's CARES Act Supplemental Funds.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Angela Larsson, Director of Finance

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Date

**VI. PROCUREMENT CERTIFICATION:**

The procurement of this contract is in compliance with the Louisville Metro Housing Authority's procurement policies and procedures, and satisfied through Kentucky State contract, MA—758-2000000505.

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Steve Webb, Purchasing Agent

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Date

Prepared and Submitted by:

Kathleen O'Neil  
Choice Neighborhood Coordinator and  
Executive Planner  
July 21, 2020