

Housing Homelessness and Neighborhood Development Commission
Resolution 2023-02

Whereas Graceful Touch has applied for Municipal funds to operate a warming shelter at 1536 Gambell St, and

Whereas Graceful Touch has met with the Fairview Community Council to brief them on their intentions and plans, and

Whereas Alexis Johnson, homeless coordinator for the Municipality of Anchorage has recommended against approving the use of Municipal funds for Graceful Touch to operate a warming shelter at 1536 Gambell St, and

Whereas the number of homeless individuals have grown every year in Anchorage for decades, and more acutely these last five years, and

Whereas there is an acute need for mental health services to help get those experiencing homelessness out of the cycle of homelessness into which they are trapped,

Therefore be it resolved that the Housing Homelessness and Neighborhood Development Commission (HHAND) agrees with the assessment of Alexis Johnson and recommends against using Municipal funds to operate a warming shelter at 1536 Gambell St, and

Be it further resolved that HHAND advocates for Municipal, State, and Federal funds be spent addressing the acute shortage of mental health services, including intensive treatment, drug rehabilitation, and supportive mental health services for those experiencing homelessness or close to it.

Approved unanimously by the HHAND Commission December 6, 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S J Klein', written in a cursive style.

S J Klein, President