



THE  
SHARE  
CENTER  
AT FOOD & SHELTER



FOOD & SHELTER



City of Norman  
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The City of Norman Staff,

On Monday night, September 16, 2024, The Food and Shelter Board of Directors voted to reject the contract presented by the City of Norman to manage A Friend's House.

The meeting we had on Friday, September 6, was tense and filled with varying opinions on how we should proceed. While there were some suggestions, we were not left with confidence in the City's willingness or ability to meet the requests that would allow us to manage A Friend's House and serve guests successfully. The revised contract micromanages our ability to make decisions with compassion and care. This conflicts with our philosophy as an organization.

In addition, we would like to add that throughout this process, the City's auditor has repeatedly used accusatory language in public forums, most recently at the Oversight Committee on Thursday, September 12. The auditor's continued hardline stance, micromanagement, and unwillingness to compromise or consider our organization's reputation are inappropriate. Third parties regularly audit us successfully and without issue. Our revenue is directly tied to our reputation, and being unjustly painted in a poor light presents too much risk for us to continue.

We believe in A Friend's House's work, and our staff has done a fantastic job with a challenging task. As such, we offer to continue operating the shelter while the City of Norman seeks another operator if you so choose.

Sincerely,

Adam Clinton, President of the Board,  
On behalf of the Board of Directors