

**EXHIBIT A**

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF DUPAGE AND PRAIRIE STATE LEGAL SERVICES TO PROVIDE HOUSING STABILITY SERVICES FOR THE EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ("ERA2")

WHEREAS, Section 3201(a) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2 (March 11, 2021) ("ARPA"), authorizes the United States Department of the Treasury ("Treasury") to make payments to certain eligible grantees under the Emergency Rental Assistance Program ("ERA2"); and

WHEREAS, Treasury has allocated funding to the County to provide housing stability services to households at risk of homelessness or housing instability within the County pursuant to ARPA; and

WHEREAS, the County of DuPage ("County") is a body corporate and politic; and

WHEREAS, Prairie State Legal Services ("Agency") is a not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Illinois and operating within DuPage County, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the County and the Agency are collectively known herein as the "Parties"; and

WHEREAS, the County is authorized to provide economic relief to eligible low income households through Treasury's ERA2 program for the provision of housing stability services that enable households to maintain or obtain housing; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to enter into an Agreement with the Agency to: have the Agency provide critical legal services to those at risk of losing their homes. Services include legal counseling and representation to individuals facing eviction in DuPage County.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and Agreements contained herein, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

1. Purpose of this Agreement: The County is entering into this Agreement with the Agency to provide legal services to DuPage County Households at risk of eviction.

2. Term: This Agreement shall be in effect beginning on the date of the counter-signature of this Agreement ("commencement date") through January 31, 2026.

3. Eligible Uses: Housing stability services administered by the Agency to DuPage County households facing eviction in DuPage County as defined by Treasury and as outlined in the DuPage County Emergency Rental Assistance Program Manual ("Manual") through September 30, 2025. This includes assistance in navigating legal processes, negotiation with landlords, and representation in court proceedings.

4. Disbursement of the Grant Funds: The County shall grant to the Agency, as full payment for all activities to be performed by Agency pursuant to this Agreement, a maximum compensation of \$112,500 to support staff salaries. Invoicing will be made quarterly for expenses incurred and must include supporting documentation for expenses billed. Final invoice must be received by October 15, 2025.

5. Administration of the Grant: By entering into this Agreement, the Agency agrees to provide legal services to DuPage County Households at risk of eviction.

6. Reporting Requirements: Quarterly reporting of unduplicated demographic data of clients served must be included with the invoice.

7. Review of Operations: The County may monitor and conduct an evaluation of operations funded by the ERA2 program. An evaluation may include site visits by County personnel to observe the program, and/or to review the Agency's financial and program materials relating to the activities financed or facilitated by the program.

8. Termination of the Grant: The Agency or the County, upon thirty (30) calendar days' written notice of intention to do so, may terminate all or part of the Agreement. The County, by written notice, may immediately terminate all or any part of the Grant upon determination that funds have been used, or are being used, for purposes other than those which are the basis for this Grant. Any unused advanced funds shall be returned to the County.

9. Recitals: The recitals to this Agreement are incorporated as though set forth herein.

10. Records/Indemnity: The Agency agrees to retain any records and receipts related to the expenditure of these funds for a period of no less than ten (10) years or the period of time which federal law requires these records to be retained, whichever is longer. In the event that the United States Office of the Inspector General,

or any other agency empowered to audit the expenditure of funds under ARPA, deems that this expenditure, or any expenditure of grant funds covered by this Agreement, was not permitted under ARPA or amendments related thereto, the Agency agrees to indemnify, hold harmless, and make whole the County for any funds which the federal government recoups from the County, which were administered by the Agency. By signing this Agreement, the signers represent that they have the authority to enter into this Agreement on behalf of the respective parties.

THUS, in witness thereof, the Parties have executed this Agreement on the date first written below.

**The County of DuPage**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Prairie State Legal Services**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_