



EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION 20150616-003

Date: June 18, 2015

Subject: Unaccompanied Children Funding

Motioned By: Aletha Huston

Seconded By: Jacquie Porter

Recommendation

The Early Childhood Council recommends that City Council identify and allocate FY16 and FY17 funding in the amount of \$292,948 to provide case management, legal, and mental health services for unaccompanied children in Travis County.

Description of Recommendation to Council

The funding amount would be leveraged with an additional \$292,948 from Travis County that is currently being sought. The total combined funding from City of Austin and Travis County would be \$585,896 for two years. \$242,179 would be for case management, \$314,717 would be for legal services, and \$29,000 would be for mental health services.

Rationale:

477 unaccompanied children have been released from Office of Refugee Resettlement custody to sponsors in Travis County as of January 2015. Only 20% of unaccompanied children placed in Travis County are receiving post-release services. This means that 382 children are left vulnerable and isolated from existing community resources.

Vote

For: Kyle Holder, Albert Black, Anurita Mittra, Larry Elsner, Aletha Huston, Jacquie Porter, and Cindy Rodriguez

Against: None

Abstain: Brook Son (due to potential conflict of interest)

Absent: Rhonda Paver, Avis Wallace, Debra Keith-Thompson, Dustin Breithaupt, Laura Koenig

Attest: *Kyle Holder, Early Childhood Council, Chair*