

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	49097	Agenda Number	25.
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Meeting Date:	9/17/2015	Department:	Health and Human Services
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Subject

Authorize the negotiation and execution of a contract with SICKLE CELL ANEMIA ASSOCIATION OF AUSTIN, MARC THOMAS CHAPTER, to provide services to clients with sickle cell disease, their families, and at-risk populations, for a 12-month term beginning October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016, in an amount not to exceed \$139,364, with three 12-month renewal options, each in an amount not to exceed \$139,364, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$557,456.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$139,364 for the initial contract term is contingent upon availability of funding in the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department. Funding for the renewal options is contingent upon the availability of funding in future budgets.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Shannon Jones, Director, Health and Human Services Department, 972-5010; Stephanie Hayden, Asst. Director, Community Services, 972-5017; Robert Kingham, Unit Manager, Community Based Resources 972-5026; Elena Shemilina, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5033.
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

The City's Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) has contracted with the Sickle Cell Anemia Association of Austin, Marc Thomas Chapter, since 2003 to serve clients with sickle cell disease and their families, as well as targeted at-risk populations. This council item is time sensitive to ensure that the services are provided to the community. A delay in amending this contract may negatively affect service delivery.

The agency's program-staff provides services in two major areas:

1. Notification, Hemoglobinopathy Education, and Navigation Services:

- Intake and Navigation Services: The agency's trained staff acts as a navigator for assistance and care-calls, and provides visits to the hospitalized clients.
- Financial Assistance: The Sickle Cell Anemia Association of Austin provides limited financial assistance to clients in financial need to help with their prescription medications, life-situation hardships, and bereavement support services.

- Support Group Meetings: The Sickle Cell Anemia Association of Austin provides support group meetings for adults and children with sickle cell disease and/or sickle cell trait to provide unity and companionship while they are battling this disease.
- Liaison: service as a liaison for clients and their medical doctors.
- Newborn screening notification and education: The Sickle Cell Anemia Association of Austin provides notification to new parents of a newborn that has tested positive for sickle cell trait.
- Sickle Cell Camp opportunities: The Sickle Cell Anemia Association of Austin provides sickle cell summer camp opportunities for children affected by sickle cell disease.
- Certified Hemoglobinopathy Education: The agency educates parents, groups, and individuals about the genetics of the disease and preventative measures.

2. Community-Based Education:

- Health Education about Sickle Cell Disease and Sickle Cell Trait: The Sickle Cell Anemia Association of Austin facilitates health fairs and health presentations to community organizations. The agency also provides expertise in giving presentations and working with a number of community based organizations.
- Outreach, awareness, and advocacy: The Sickle Cell Anemia Association of Austin provides outreach by going into the community and raising awareness and advocacy for families and individuals with sickle cell disease or sickle cell trait.
- Client Services: Sickle cell interventions, such as medical referrals, case management, working with other agencies that provide services to the sickle cell clients, advocacy, support, outreach, education, and assistance to all persons and their families devastated by sickle cell disease. In addition, program-staff conducts in-home and hospital visits to better address clients' needs.
- Education: Conduct educational sessions for both affected individuals and their families, and various organizations that provide services to the sickle cell clients, and conduct and attend health fairs to target at-risk populations in an effort to increase knowledge and raise awareness about sickle cell disease.
- Outreach: Collaborate with various agencies, such as Seton Family of Hospitals, Children's Hospital, The Children's Haven of Austin, The Blood and Tissue Center, Huston Tillotson University, Austin Community College, churches, schools, neighborhood centers, Texas Education Agency, Texas Department of State Health Services, and other agencies and community groups to ensure maximum support for clients and their families.

Performance Measures, as well as contract exhibits, will be negotiated with the Sickle Cell Anemia Association of Austin staff.