

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	55795	Agenda Number	18.
Meeting Date:	3/31/2016		Department:	Health and Human Services
Subject				
<p>Authorize award, negotiation, and execution of an agreement with CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF CENTRAL TEXAS, to provide housing stability services to households at risk of homelessness in an amount not to exceed \$740,000, for a 12-month term beginning April 1, 2016, with four 12-month renewal options, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$3,700,000.</p>				
Amount and Source of Funding				
<p>Funding in the amount of \$740,000 is included 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.</p>				
Fiscal Note				
A fiscal note is not required.				
Purchasing Language:				
Prior Council Action:	On September 8, 2015, Council approved Ordinance No. 20150908-001 adopting the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Operating Budget.			
For More Information:	Shannon Jones, Director, 512-972-5010; Stephanie Hayden, Deputy Director, 512-972-5017; Robert Kingham, Social Services Policy Manager, 512-972-5026; Elena Lloyd, Agenda Coordinator, 512-972-5033.			
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:				
MBE / WBE:				
Related Items:				

Additional Backup Information

With the cost of living in Austin and Travis County steadily increasing, many individuals and families struggle to maintain their housing and utilities. Additionally, over 50% of households in Austin are rentals. To that end, Council approved funding in the fiscal year 2015-2016 budget to implement a housing retention program for low-income renters in Austin/Travis County who are at risk of homelessness. The intent of the program is to promote economic self-sufficiency through the provision of temporary financial assistance, case management, and other wrap-around services. The program is designed to serve low-income families and individuals whose income are less than 200% of the Federal Poverty level, and provide assistance in achieving and maintaining self-reliance following the end of this temporary assistance.

On December 14, 2015, the Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) issued a competitive solicitation with a deadline of February 1, 2016 with the hope of establishing an agreement with a community-based organization capable of managing a Rental Assistance Program with the following components: 1) offer case management, direct financial assistance, and other wrap-around services that will assist households at-risk of homelessness to maintain

housing, and 2) operate as a fiscal agent to distribute direct financial assistance on behalf of case-managed clients of the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department Neighborhood Centers. Two applications were received and HHSD presented the funding recommendation to the Health and Human Services Committee on March 9, 2016.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF CENTRAL TEXAS (CCCTX) is a non-profit organization and was the recommended community-based organization for this endeavor, for its dedication to serving people of all ages, faiths, ethnic backgrounds, and economic circumstances by strengthening family resources and promoting respect for human dignity and life. CCCTX assists working, disadvantaged individuals and families gain economic self-sufficiency and stability by providing temporary financial assistance, case management, and other wrap-around services.

Performance Measures:

Outputs per 12-month period:

Number of unduplicated clients served: 450

Number of households receiving one-time financial assistance: 35

Number of households receiving comprehensive case management services: 145

Outcomes:

Percent of households at risk of homelessness that maintain housing: 80%

Percent of households at risk of homelessness that remain in stable housing for six months after program exit: 65%

Related Department Goals: Provision: Social Services – Promote a healthy community by addressing the needs of vulnerable households.