

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	55920	Agenda Number	20.
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Meeting Date:	3/31/2016	Department:	Health and Human Services
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Subject

Authorize award, negotiation, and execution of an agreement with six social service agencies to provide community based health prevention and education programs in an amount not to exceed \$1,050,000, for a 12-month term beginning April 1, 2016, with five 12-month renewal options in an amount not to exceed \$1,050,000 per renewal option, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$6,300,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$1,050,000 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.

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. On May 7, 2015, Council passed Resolution No 20150507-027 directing the City Manager to establish a working group focusing on health and economic equity.
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

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) defines health equity as "When all people have the opportunity to attain their full health potential and no one is disadvantaged from achieving this potential because of their social position or other socially determined circumstance."

Despite the fact that Austin is frequently cited as one of the fittest cities in the United States, disparities continue to persist for African Americans; Immigrants; Latinos; Asians; and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) people of color. These populations continue to experience higher rates of death and disease. For example, incidence rates for cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, HIV infection, infant mortality, and premature and low birth-weight babies for African American and Hispanic populations in Austin and Travis County continue to be higher than that of other ethnic groups.

On May 7, 2015, Austin City Council passed Resolution 20150507-027, which focused on health and economic equity. This resolution directed the City Manager to establish a working group to perform the following functions:

- Gather information for improving health outcomes for infants, mothers, and other members of the community
- Evaluate the impact that existing City policies and practices have on health equity
- Evaluate best practices in other cities
- Develop recommendations for addressing race and socioeconomic-based inequities throughout the City

On August 7, 2015, the Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) provided the Health Inequities in Austin Travis County report to the Mayor and City Council related to Council Resolution 20150507-027. The report included an assessment of racial and ethnic health disparities in the community. Additionally, it provided recommendations for short term programs and funding for the implementation of enhanced community-based, non-traditional, holistic, and culturally specific services to address health disparities in Austin.

On December 14, 2015, HHSD issued a Request for Applications with a deadline of February 1, 2016 and received eleven applications. The overall objective for this competitive solicitation was to establish agreements with community-based organizations. The agreements provide community-based health prevention and education programs across five health equity issue areas identified in the Health Inequities in Austin Travis County report that include: Maternal and Infant Health; African American Health Disparities; Services for Elderly; LGBTQ People of Color Sexual Health and Wellness; and Immigrant Mental Health.

On March 9, 2016, HHSD presented the funding recommendation to the Health and Human Services Committee. Three of the recommended agencies currently provide social services for the City, one of the recommended agencies have provided social services for the City in the past, and two of the recommended agencies have not provided social services for the City. The social service programs recommended for funding will begin April 1, 2016 for an initial 12-month period ending on March 31, 2017, with five 12-month renewal options. Services vary, but address the five health equity areas.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

Outputs per 12-month period:

Number of unduplicated clients served across all of the five health equity issue areas: 941

Outcomes vary across each agreement but address all of the five health equity areas.

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