

**SUBJECT:** Authorize negotiation and execution of a 24-month Agreement with CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK, INC. (CAFB) beginning on January 1, 2017, for the provision of Supplemental Food Assistance Program (SNAP) outreach and enrollment services in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.

**AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING:** Funding in the amount of \$200,000 is included in the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department.

**FISCAL NOTE:** There is no anticipated fiscal impact.

**AGENDA CATEGORY:** Health & Human Services Department

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:** 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, 512-972-5010.

**BOARDS AND COMMISSION ACTION:** To be reviewed by the Austin Travis County Food Policy Board on November 14, 2016

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:** On September 14, 2016 Council approved Ordinance No. 20160914-001 adopting the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Operating Budget.

**BACKGROUND:**

As outlined in the Austin Travis County Food Policy Board recommendation number 20150608-5AIC, 18 percent of Travis County residents and 25.5 percent of Travis County children live in a food insecure household, which is directly tied to poverty, and results in increased health care costs, lower education success, and decreased workforce readiness. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is a federal nutrition program that allows participants to purchase healthy food. SNAP has proven to effectively lift many persons out of poverty but only 58 percent of eligible persons in Travis County are enrolled in SNAP.

The Capital Area Food Bank, Inc. (CAFB) is at the front line of hunger relief with the help of roughly 250 partner agencies in 21 counties across Central Texas. CAFB is the largest hunger relief organization in Central Texas, and brings more than 30 years of experience and industry knowledge. CAFB staff provide phone and in-person consultations in English and Spanish free of charge:

- explaining how the SNAP application process works and what to expect
- completing and submitting SNAP application packet completely and correctly to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission
- providing information on additional community resources as needed

During the 2017 budget adoption process, Council allocated \$200,000 for direct SNAP outreach and enrollment services to individuals who have not historically participated in SNAP. The Health and Human Services Department currently partners with CAFB to provide SNAP direct outreach and enrollment services. This additional funding will expand CAFB's capacity to provide these services and focus efforts in communities who have been historically underserved by SNAP. In addition, CAFB will utilize coordinated messaging and outreach materials developed using best practices and local market research to inform eligible individuals of the benefits of SNAP. This additional funding may be eligible for matching funds, such as SNAP application assistance matching funds.

**Performance Measures**

Related Departmental Goal: Promote and foster increased self-sufficiency, healthy behaviors, and lifestyle among targeted populations.

Output Measure

20161208 – Capital Area Food Bank SNAP Enrollment	
Number of Unduplicated Clients Served	1216
Outcome Measure	
Percent of individuals who obtain or maintain public benefits	22%