



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-1092, **Agenda Item #:** 39.

1/23/2020

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 2 with Austin Travis County Mental Health Mental Retardation Center, dba Integral Care, to expand homeless services in an amount not to exceed \$204,112, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$2,204,112.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

One-time funding in the amount of \$204,112 is available in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Austin Public Health Department's Operating Budget.

Prior Council Action:

September 11, 2019 - Council approved Ordinance No. 20190911-001 adopting the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Operating Budget, which included \$1,500,000 in one-time funding for homeless campgrounds or alternatives, on a 10-1 vote with Council Member Flannigan voting no.

November 29, 2018 - Council authorized a 10-month agreement with Austin Travis County Mental Health Mental Retardation Center, dba Integral Care, to provide homeless rapid re-housing services in an amount not to exceed \$400,000 with four 12-month extension options, on a 10-0 vote with Council Member Troxclair absent.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

Approval of this item will authorize Austin Public Health to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 2 with Integral Care to increase funding for expanded homeless services, including rapid re-housing case management and SOAR (Supplemental Security Income/Social Security Disability Insurance, Outreach, Access and Recovery) services for the purpose of resourcing Guided Path efforts and future Encampment Resolution strategies.

In October 2019, the Homeless Strategy Office partnered with the Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (also known as ECHO), Austin Public Health, Downtown Austin Community Court, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development, and the Austin Police Department to co-convene the homeless provider community to design a strategy to address the encampments outside of the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (ARCH). The Guided Path Pilot Project aims to both reduce the health and safety risks for those living in encampments and prevent and end homelessness through long term solutions. Expanded case management services will be coordinated with other rapid re-housing resources to engage participants, locate and facilitate housing placement options, and provide housing stability services once participants exit homelessness into

housing.

Amendment No. 1 exercised the first of four extension options, ending September 30, 2020.

Council approved the original 10-month agreement beginning December 1, 2018, for \$400,000, with four 12-month extension options, for the provision of rapid re-housing services for individuals experiencing homelessness with proven barriers to transitioning out of homelessness on their own.

For the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Operating Budget, Council approved new homeless services funding with rapid re-housing designated as one of the primary purposes for it. On April 20, 2018, Austin Public Health issued a Request for Applications (RFA No. RR2018TPS) with a deadline of May 18, 2018 and received four applications. The objective of this competitive solicitation was to establish one or more agreements with qualified nonprofits or government entities for the provision of rapid re-housing services for individuals and/or families experiencing homelessness. Three applicants were awarded agreements that began July 1, 2018. In the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Operating Budget, an additional \$400,000 was allocated for rapid re-housing services. Integral Care was the fourth applicant of RFA No. RR2018TPS, and was recommended to receive additional funding for a new program called Rapid Recovery: Shelter to Housing.

The Rapid Recovery: Shelter to Housing program serves individuals who have been experiencing homelessness for years or are sleeping unsheltered and utilizing the ARCH for basic needs and have not been connected to housing resources. Program participants will receive wrap-around services, including housing stability case management, landlord outreach, supported employment, access to SOAR services, and access to mental health care, counseling, substance use services, and other medical services as needed. received four applications. The objective of this competitive solicitation was to establish one or more agreements with qualified nonprofits or government entities for the provision of rapid re-housing services for individuals and/or families experiencing homelessness. Three applicants were awarded agreements that began July 1, 2018. In the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Operating Budget, an additional \$400,000 was allocated for rapid re-housing services. Integral Care was the fourth applicant of RFA No. RR2018TPS, and was recommended to receive additional funding for a new program called Rapid Recovery: Shelter to Housing.

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