



## Recommendation for Action

**File #:** 20-2008, **Agenda Item #:** 47.

5/7/2020

### **Posting Language**

Authorize the ratification of an agreement with Saheli, Inc. dba Asian Family Support Services to provide direct relief and direct financial assistance to Austin/Travis County residents impacted by COVID-19 in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 for the term April 20, 2020 through September 30, 2020.

### **Lead Department**

Austin Public Health.

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$1,000,000 is included in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund for Relief in a State of Emergency Fund to support COVID-19 emergency relief.

### **Prior Council Action:**

April 9, 2020 - Council approved Resolution No. 20200409-081 to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$15,000,000 for the Relief in a State of Emergency Fund to support COVID-19 emergency relief, with an 11-0 vote on the virtual dais.

### **For More Information:**

Stephanie Hayden, Director, 512-972-5010; Adrienne Sturup, Assistant Director, 512-972-5167; Akeshia Johnson-Smothers, Interim Social Services Policy Manager, 512-972-5567; Lucy Thompson, Agenda Coordinator, 512-972-5045.

### **Additional Backup Information:**

This action will authorize ratification of an Agreement with Saheli, Inc. to provide direct financial assistance to Austin/Travis County residents impacted by COVID-19. The term for this agreement is April 20, 2020 through September 30, 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 for a total contract amount of \$1,000,000, with no extension options.

On April 9, 2020, City Council approved an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund (Ordinance No. 20190910-001) to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$15,000,000 for the Relief in a State of Emergency (RISE) Fund to support COVID-19 emergency relief. On that same day, City Council approved Resolution No. 20200409-81, which authorized the City Manager to negotiate and execute new emergency contracts funded from the RISE Fund to offer immediate support services and direct financial assistance to residents impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and related economic crisis.

Saheli, Inc. will use the direct relief and direct financial assistance to continue serving people of color, the LGBTQI+ community, immigrant communities, seniors, historically marginalized communities, and survivors of domestic violence. Direct relief and direct financial assistance will include: food access, case management, behavioral health services, essential hygiene, mortgage or rental assistance, assistance with utility bills, assistance with medical expenses, diapers and baby formula, car payments, smart phones with a service plan, and Chromebook computers.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.