



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-2176, **Agenda Item #:** 81.

5/21/2020

Posting Language

Authorize the ratification of Amendment No. 1 to an agreement with Family Eldercare, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$104,500 in one-time funding, to provide mobile hygiene trailers for homeless individuals in Austin/Travis County affected by COVID-19 for a revised agreement amount of \$824,500, with no extension options.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$104,500 is available in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Austin Public Health Department's Operating Budget.

Prior Council Action:

October 3, 2019 - Council approved the negotiation and execution of an agreement with Family Eldercare, Inc. for provision of temporary employment opportunities for individuals experiencing homelessness in an amount not to exceed \$720,000 for a twelve-month period beginning October 1, 2019 on a 10-0 vote with Council Member Harper-Madison absent.

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.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

This action will authorize the ratification of Amendment No. 1 with Family Eldercare, Inc., Inc. to provide mobile hygiene trailers for homeless individuals in Austin/Travis County effected by COVID-19, for a new total agreement amount of \$824,500, with no extension options. Family Eldercare serves as the administrative and fiscal agent for subcontractor The Other Ones Foundation (TOOF), who will provide mobile hygiene trailers that offer: showers, toilets and hygiene supplies; first aid and harm reduction supplies; basic needs, including clothing, food and supplies for encampments; and links to permanent housing programs, healthcare, and community resources. The trailers will be available from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at different locations, while supplies last.

The original Social Service Agreement with Family Eldercare, Inc. for the Workforce First program is for \$720,000, with no extension options for the term of October 1, 2019 - September 30, 2020, and offers temporary work opportunities and supportive services to individuals experiencing homelessness. It was an expansion of the 13-month pilot program, which expanded from one work-crew to three work-crews for an additional twelve months. Family Eldercare serves as the administrative and fiscal agent, subcontracting with

TOOF to provide outreach, daily paid employment opportunities and supportive services to individuals experiencing homelessness, as an alternative to panhandling. TOOF's mission is to transition Austin's homeless neighbors into an engaged community through shelter, support, nourishment, and love.

The initial pilot was a collaboration between the Parks and Recreation Department, Austin Public Health, Watershed Protection Department, Family Eldercare, and TOOF. The ongoing purpose of this project is to provide temporary work opportunities within Austin to those experiencing homelessness, those living on the streets, and to those who may be utilizing unsafe or illegal methods of obtaining income to meet basic needs. Services include mobile outreach, identification of individual needs, job training, connection to banking services and opportunities for saving, connection to social services, and assistance addressing obstacles to obtaining employment for workers of all abilities. Several past program participants have been connected to housing programs, mainstream benefits, and additional work opportunities to increase income and maintain housing stability. Additional City Departments are participating in the expansion of this program in Fiscal Year 2019-2020. Funding for this program will be used for eligible clean-up activities specific to the requirements of various funding sources from Austin Resource Recovery Clean Community Fee (\$300,000); Austin Public Health General Fund (\$245,000); Parks and Recreation General Fund (\$105,000); and Watershed Protection Drainage Utility Fee (\$70,000).

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.