



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-2848, **Agenda Item #:** 69.

9/30/2021

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 9 to an agreement with Caritas of Austin to provide services that address the mental health of individuals who have experienced homelessness, to add one 12-month extension option beginning October 1, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$238,368, for a revised total agreement amount not to exceed \$651,720.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$238,368 is available in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget.

Prior Council Action:

November 20, 2014 - Council authorized execution of a 37-month agreement with Caritas in the amount of \$643,377, with three 12-month extension options each in the amount of \$214,459 for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$1,286,754, for mental health services, on a 6-0 vote with Council Member Tovo recusing herself from contracts associated with Theater Action Project/Creative Action.

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. 9 to the agreement with Caritas of Austin (Caritas) for the Behavioral Health Services (BHS) Programs, that will enhance the access of quality services to low-income populations, to add a 12-month extension option beginning October 1, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$238,368, for a revised total agreement amount not to exceed \$1,651,720.

Amendment No. 8 exercised the third extension option in the amount of \$238,368 for a 12-month term beginning on October 1, 2020 through August 30, 2021 for a revised total agreement amount of \$1,413,352.

Amendment No. 7 allowed modification of program exhibits.

Amendment No. 6 exercised the second extension option in the amount of \$238,368 for a 12-month term beginning on October 1, 2019 through August 30, 2020, for a revised total agreement amount of \$1,174,984.

Amendment No. 5 allowed modification of the program work statement.

Amendment No. 4 exercised the first extension option in the amount of \$238,368 for a 12-month term beginning on October 1, 2018 through August 30, 2019, for a revised total agreement amount of \$936,616.

Amendment No. 3 added \$5,814 to the 37-month base agreement for a revised agreement amount of \$698,248 due a 2.3% annual cost of living increase for social services agreements approved by Council during the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget adoption process.

Amendment No. 2 amended the contract exhibits and added \$10,456, for a revised agreement amount of \$692,434 due to a new budget policy where Council approved additional funding for social service contracts. Amendment No. 1 added \$38,601 to the 37-month base agreement, for a revised agreement amount of \$681,978 due to a 6% annual cost of living increase for social services agreements approved by Council during the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget adoption process.

The City entered into an agreement with Caritas in 2014 as a result of the Austin Public Health Department's Health Self-Sufficiency Request for Applications (also known as RFA) process. Services began on September 1, 2015 for an initial 37-month period ending on September 30, 2018, with three 12-month extension options. Caritas's BHS Program serves individuals who have experienced homelessness through mental/behavioral health counseling, substance abuse counseling, psychiatric nursing services, and peer mentoring. Caritas is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment.