



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-3028, **Agenda Item #:** 29.

9/29/2022

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Young Women's Christian Association of Greater Austin to provide healing modality services, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.

(Note: This procurement was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program. For the services required for this procurement, there were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

Lead Department

Financial Services Department.

Client Department(s)

Austin Police Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Operating Budget of the Austin Police Department.

Purchasing Language:

Professional Service.

For More Information:

Inquiries should be directed to Jo Gutierrez, at 512-974-2827 or jo.gutierrez@austintexas.gov [<mailto:jo.gutierrez@austintexas.gov>](mailto:jo.gutierrez@austintexas.gov).

Additional Backup Information:

The contract is for the Young Women's Christian Association of Greater Austin (YWCA) to provide healing modality services to individuals impacted by violence and trauma. The YWCA will use the funds to broaden choices of available healing modalities to address the community's diverse mental health needs. They will offer somatic experiencing, Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing, trust based relational interventions, and narrative therapy. In addition, the YWCA will offer body-based modalities such as yoga therapy, acupuncture, Qigong, Tai Chi, sound therapy, as well as integrated harm reduction therapy. Services will be individualized and provided complimentary "one-stop-shop" accessible to many who otherwise could not afford the average cost. YWCA will partner with licensed professionals such as counselors, clinicians, therapists, and social workers fully trained in providing these specialized services.

The YWCA will also use funds to remain updated on the most current information on harm reduction. YWCA staff will consolidate information from trainings, add a trauma-informed, relational-cultural lens, and provide trainings for social service providers, educators, emerging therapists, and social workers.

Increasing availability and access to culturally resonant healing modalities to those most directly harmed by systemic oppression is a recommendation from the Reimagining Public Safety Task Force (RPSTF). The

YWCA aligns with the values (holistic community safety, centering those most directly harmed by systemic oppression, embodying an equity driven culture, and tackling intergenerational trauma from a root cause perspective) of the RPSTF.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Safety.