

Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-3368, Agenda Item #: 16.

11/3/2022

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Texas Harm Reduction Alliance for harm reduction activities to prevent overdose for the project period of November 1, 2022 through January 31, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$170,000.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available from the National Association of County and City Health Officials, with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Injury Control and Prevention. The grant period is November 1, 2022 through July 31, 2023 with a no-cost extension available to continue, with a contract modification through January 31, 2024.

For More Information:

Adrienne Sturrup, Director, 512-972-5010; Cassandra DeLeon, Assistant Director, Disease Prevention Health Promotion Division 512-972-6760; Janet Pichette, Chief Epidemiologist/Assistant Director, Epidemiology and Public Health Preparedness Division 512-972-5486, Stephanie Helfman, Manager, Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention Program, 512-972-5222; Estella Kirscht, Administrative Specialist, 512-972-4423.

Additional Backup Information:

The Austin Public Health Department has been awarded the Implementing Overdose Prevention Strategies at the Local Level grant from the National Association of County and City Health Officials, with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

This contract will expand harm reduction activities such as training. The training will provide individuals with the knowledge, skills, and self-efficacy to administer naloxone in case of emergency. The Texas Harm Reduction Alliance will hire two full-time peer overdose prevention coordinators to educate high-risk individuals and staff of organizations and businesses that may interact with high-risk individuals. Trainings will cover overdose prevention, administration of naloxone and harm reduction tools and strategies, and will take place at bars and clubs, jail/reentry programs, gaming rooms, skate parks, youth centers, and other programs and spaces that reach young people.

Performance Measures:

The Texas Harm Reduction Alliance will conduct 60 harm reduction trainings to reach approximately 580 people during the project period. The overdose prevention coordinators will also support connections to additional services.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment.