



Recommendation for Action

File #: 23-1652, **Agenda Item #:** 30.

5/18/2023

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with the Texas Department of State Health Services to purchase human immunodeficiency virus medications under the federal Ryan White HIV/AIDS Part A grant program, for a two-year term for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$400,000.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$200,000 is available from the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part A grant and included in the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund.

Prior Council Action:

January 27, 2021 - Council authorized the negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with the Texas Department of State Health Services, on an 11-0 vote.

For More Information:

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Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

September 12, 2022 - The HIV Planning Council adopted the 2023-2024 annual budget for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part A grant.

Additional Backup Information:

The purpose of the federal Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) is to provide medical and support services for people with HIV. Different programs of the grant provide services for low-income people with HIV through various channels. Part A RWHAP funding is awarded to urban areas most severely impacted by the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

The Austin Part A Transitional Grant Area (TGA) consists of Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, and Williamson Counties. The TGA received \$5.38 million in funding for the previous year. Direct services funded by Part A are delivered by community-based organizations through contracts with the City. Contracts and other grant oversight are managed by the Austin Public Health Department in its designated role as Administrative Agent of the grant.

The primary goal of RWHAP services is to provide access to and maintenance in medical care to people with HIV to achieve viral suppression. Viral suppression through antiretroviral medication is the primary key to remaining healthy for people with HIV and is a crucial element of ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Through this agreement, the Austin TGA will reimburse the Texas Department of State Health Services for HIV medications supplied through the Texas AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP). This established partnership provides medications to eligible people with HIV in the TGA who have no prescription access to steeply discounted pricing through the federal 340B drug program. The partnership is a cost-effective and efficient way of using Part A funding to help people with HIV in the TGA achieve viral suppression, remain healthy, and reduce further transmission of the virus, which are all key pillars of ending the HIV epidemic.