



## Recommendation for Action

**File #:** 23-1961, **Agenda Item #:** 36.

6/8/2023

### **Posting Language**

Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 1 to the agreement with Austin Travis County Mental Health & Mental Retardation Center d/b/a Integral Care, to provide behavioral health services to individuals experiencing homelessness at the Northbridge shelter, adding funding in an amount not to exceed \$216,972 for the 12-month period ending December 31, 2023, and adding one six-month extension option in an amount not to exceed \$143,986, for a revised total agreement amount not to exceed \$431,958.

### **Lead Department**

Austin Public Health.

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$216,972 is available from the U.S. Department of Treasury, American Rescue Plan Act. Funding for the remaining term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

### **Prior Council Action:**

March 25, 2021 - Council approved the 'Resilient ATX' resolution (Resolution No. 20210325-111) directing the City Manager to take actions regarding the development of a spending framework for COVID-19 relief and recovery and American Rescue Plan Act funding on an 11-0 vote.

### **For More Information:**

Adrienne Sturup, Director, 512-972-5010; Dianna Grey, Homeless Strategy Officer, 512-972-4424; Vella Karman, Homeless Strategy Division Manager, 512-972-5064; Juanita Jackson, Business Process Consultant, 512-972-6163.

### **Additional Backup Information:**

Approval of this item will authorize the Austin Public Health Department to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 1 to the agreement with Integral Care to provide behavioral health and supportive services at the Northbridge shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness. Integral Care has provided onsite services at Northbridge since it opened in August 2021, funded through different contracts and funding sources. Integral Care is the Local Mental Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disability Authority for Austin/Travis County.

The base agreement with Integral Care to provide Northbridge services started January 1, 2023, for an initial six-month term. Amendment No. 1 will extend the current term of services through December 31, 2023 and add one six-month extension option.

This program includes behavioral health case management, services to address onsite behavioral concerns as they arise, and assistance for shelter guests to successfully move into housing. Program staff work to connect shelter guests to the Coordinated Entry System, help maintain connection to housing programs, connect individuals to ongoing behavioral healthcare, and provide support services along the way to ensure shelter guests stay engaged in the process and remain at the bridge shelter until successfully exiting into housing.

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On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law, establishing the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Program. The American Rescue Plan Act funds are intended to support ongoing recovery efforts in Austin and Travis County and respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency by meeting urgent community needs. The American Rescue Plan Act funds will be used for activities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts, including homelessness. Resolution No. 20210325-111 includes homeless services as a funding priority.