



## Recommendation for Action

**File #: 23-2427, Agenda Item #: 104.**

**7/20/2023**

### **Posting Language**

Approve a resolution authorizing the submission of the application for grant funding and acceptance of the related grant award in the amount of \$401,938 from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division (OOG CJD) for the Go ATX Youth Project, the provision of all applicable matching funds, the designation of the Director of the Austin Public Health Department as the official authorized to apply for, accept, reject, agree to, alter, or terminate the grant, and the return of all lost or misused grant funds to OOG CJD.

### **Lead Department**

Austin Public Health.

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$401,938 is available from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Truancy Prevention Grant Program for the project period of September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024. A City funding match is not required.

### **For More Information:**

Adrienne Sturup, Director, 512-972-5010; Donna Sundstrom, Assistant Director 512-972-5038; Derrick McKnight, Program Manager 512-972-4785; Juanita Jackson, Business Process Consultant 512-972-6163.

### **Additional Backup Information:**

This action will also provide the required resolution needed by the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division to complete the award process related to \$401,938 in grant funding for the Go ATX Youth Project for the project period of September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024.

This grant award will fund the conversion of 3.0 grant-funded temporary positions to regular full-time equivalent positions to perform services under the GoATX Project, which is an evidence-based truancy prevention program. The three positions include a Public Health Program Supervisor and two Public Health Youth Program Specialists. Austin Public Health has retained qualified personnel and brings forward this request to ensure retention by providing benefits, including healthcare and retirement. In addition, the grant award will fund a subaward with Integral Care and allow for the purchase of curriculum, training, supplies and participant certifications.

The grantor requires a resolution approved by Council that includes items one through four below:

1. Authorization by the governing body for the submission of the application to OOG that clearly identifies the name of the project for which funding is requested.
2. A commitment to provide all applicable matching funds.
3. A designation of the name and/or title of an authorized official who is given the authority to apply for, accept, reject, alter, or terminate a grant (Note: If a name is provided, you must update OOG should the official change during the grant period.); and
4. A written assurance that, in the event of loss or misuse of grant funds, the governing body will return all funds to OOG.

One of the goals for the Austin Youth Development (AYD) Program is to provide employment services to youth ages 17 to 22. Youth are considered full-time, temporary employees and are encouraged to participate in training and education programs, such as GED or diploma programs, tutoring, and educational career guidance. In addition, there is a mentoring component that includes appropriate behavior, social skills, interview skills, and career/life goal setting.

The Go ATX Youth Project (the Project) will serve as a preventative measure for youth and young adults at risk of not receiving high school credit due to poor attendance. The Project will utilize a nationally recognized evidenced-based curriculum, 40 Developmental Assets, to educate youth ages 14 to 22 on self-worth, critical thinking, and future planning. The Project will have a strong focus on career exploration that will include two-year and four-year college entrance opportunities, apprenticeships, trade work opportunities, and various certifications to provide additional wrap-around services and support to youth, and a licensed mental health practitioner will work with program staff. This will ensure that youth in the Project who need services outside the regular Project offerings, such as additional social services or counseling services, will receive such services at no cost. To this end, the Project is a safe and restorative measure to assist youth in making positive choices and changes for a more positive outcome. The Project will receive youth from Austin Independent School District, Del Valle Independent School District, and Manor Independent School District.