



City of Austin

Recommendation for Action

File #: 24-4330, **Agenda Item #:** 41.

4/18/2024

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with Texas Health Action d/b/a Kind Clinic or Waterloo Counseling Center to provide HIV and sexually transmitted infection testing and treatment services, for a 12-month term through May 31, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$1,350,000, with no extension options.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$1,350,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Austin Public Health Department Budget Stabilization Reserve Fund Budget.

For More Information:

Adrienne Sturup, Director, 512-972-5010; Laura LaFuente, Assistant Director, 512-972-5077; Ashlee Kraus, Acting Social Services Agreements Administration Manager, 512-972-5044; Juanita Jackson, Business Process Consultant, (512) 972-6163.

Additional Backup Information:

This action will authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with Texas Health Action d/b/a Kind Clinic or Waterloo Counseling Center for a 12-month term beginning June 1, 2024.

Texas Health Action (THA) will provide high-quality testing for HIV, chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, and hepatitis C; low cost or free walk-in testing for new and existing patients; mobile testing; low-cost or free same day sexually transmitted infection treatment; and HIV medical care and treatment that includes Rapid stART and Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (or PrEP) access.

THA is a community informed 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to providing access to culturally affirming, quality health services in a safe and supportive environment with an expertise in serving LGBTQIA+ people and people impacted by HIV.

Austin Public Health sent solicitations, or Request for Proposal (RFP), to over 800 vendors and received three proposals. Of those proposals, Texas Health Action was recommended for award. The RFP evaluation process set criteria for uniform review of all applications by a separate and independent panel. An evaluation panel comprised of individuals with education and expertise in the given issue area rated each application. Evaluators agreed on the strengths and weaknesses of each application, and each application received a resultant score based on this process. The criteria for evaluation included the following: fiscal and administrative capacity, experience, and cultural competence/racial equity; program design and performance metrics; data-informed program management; and cost effectiveness.