

**2018-2019 BUDGET QUESTION**  
***Response to Request for Information***

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**DEPARTMENT:** Austin Public Health

**REQUEST NO.:** 143

**REQUESTED BY:** Adler

**DATE REQUESTED:** 8/30/18

**DATE POSTED:** 9/6/18

**REQUEST:** Please provide the details behind the \$500,000 for enhanced mental health and healthcare outreach on slide 13 from the August 29, 2018 budget work session.

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**RESPONSE:** Per the budget recommendation from the African American Quality of Life Advisory Commission, \$500,000 is added to Austin Public Health's budget for mental health and healthcare outreach services. The Commission recommended a portion of the allocated funding be specifically earmarked for partnerships with community organizations or entities providing mental health services in communities of color at no cost or sliding scale to residents. This funding will focus on equity, addressing the under-65 uninsured rate in Travis County for African Americans (13%), Asians (14%), and Hispanics (25%), who all experience higher uninsured rates than Whites (8%), as of 2016.