

AGENDA



Thursday, March 20, 2008

Health and Human Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 10

Subject: Approve execution of amendment No. 4 to the Interlocal Agreement among the CITY OF AUSTIN, AUSTIN TRAVIS COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH MENTAL RETARDATION CENTER, Austin, TX, and TRAVIS COUNTY for substance abuse treatment services, adding an additional \$294,315 to the existing Travis County portion for an annual amount not to exceed \$1,843,157 (\$937,043 City; \$906,114 County) from January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008, with one remaining 12-month renewal option in an amount not to exceed \$1,843,157(\$937,043 City; \$906,114 County).

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$470,282 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department; \$232,500 is available from the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget of Community Court. Travis County will provide a total of \$753,164.25 (\$458,849.25 General Fund and \$294,315 Grant Funds). Funding for the final months of the agreement and any renewal option is contingent on available funding in future budgets.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Vince Cobalis, Asst. Director, Human Services, 972-5011; Stephanie Hayden, Family and Youth Services Manager, 972-5017; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

Prior Council Action: August 10, 2006, Council approved a 12-month Interlocal Agreement through December 2006, with three 12-month renewal options. Amendments 1-3 were administratively approved within Council authorization. On September 10, 2007, Council approved the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget, including a 3.5 percent increase for Social Services contracts.

BACKGROUND

The Austin Travis County Mental Health and Mental Retardation (ATCMHMR) Managed Services Organization (MSO) Program is designated to provide substance abuse treatment services for the community and create a working partnership between the City of Austin, Travis County, and the Austin Travis County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center for substance abuse treatment services. On August 10, 2006, Council approved the Interlocal Agreement with three 12-month renewal options. The 2007 renewal was executed in February 2007. The 2008 renewal was executed in December 2007, incorporating the 3.5% increase approved by Council. The Interlocal Agreement is now being amended for 2008 to recognize increased Travis County funding. Travis County's total funding increased by \$294,315 for referrals from the Parents In Recovery Program grant.

A substance abuse treatment network managed by an administrative entity (MSO) has been utilized since 1999. Under the Interlocal, ATCMHMR provides specified MSO functions for the service network. The MSO functions include credentialing; single point of entry functions; utilization management; quality management; management information systems; financial management; administration/contract management; network development and management; and on-site provision of technical assistance to network providers.

Substance abuse treatment services under the Interlocal Agreement include the following continuum of services: comprehensive clinical assessment, intervention services, residential treatment; day treatment; and outpatient and continuing care services. Additionally, clients are linked or referred to case

management and other support services as part of the treatment process. Services are provided to eligible clients according to specific eligibility criteria that include; (a) household income below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines; (b) no other third party payer available/applicable; (c) residence in City of Austin and/or Travis County; (d) meets target population criteria, which are homeless adults, adults referred by Community Court, high-risk women, and high-risk youth. The MSO will also continue to develop the service network as necessary for the provision of all required services with attention to service capacity and appropriate access for consumers.

The Travis County Parenting in Recovery grant funds will be used to serve mothers and child(ren) who are involved in the child welfare system as a result of parental substance dependency. These clients will have expedited access Level II residential services with Specialized Female Services (residential treatment services for women and their dependent children) as defined and licensed by DSHS. Additional levels of treatment service may be authorized by Travis County as appropriate.

Services provided under this Interlocal Agreement include:

- Outreach – Identify persons needing assistance and encourage them to enter services. Outreach will be provided through existing programs/agencies that work with the target populations, but will not be considered a reimbursable cost under this Agreement.
- Intake/Assessment/Referral – A clinical substance abuse assessment will be required for all potential clients and may be conducted by any provider in the service network based on the client's entry point into the system and her/his level of need for services.
- Evaluation Management Services – Group and Residential Support and Case Management, as defined by the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (TCADA). Case management involves an accountable staff person providing services that include: (a) linking clients with needed services; (b) helping clients develop skills to use basic community resources and services; and (c) monitoring and coordinating the services received by clients)
- Residential Treatment – Includes Level II and/or Level III residential treatment services as defined and licensed by TCADA. Residential services require clients to reside at the facility for a specified period of time while undergoing chemical dependency treatment.
- Transitional Housing—Housing provided to an eligible client with case management for a period not to exceed 3 months for the purpose of moving the client towards greater self-sufficiency.
- Intervention Counseling Services—Include individual counseling with eligible clients and/or family members.
- Day Treatment Services – Intensive outpatient treatment services are provided to an individual client for approximately five hours per day, for a total of at least twenty hours of services per week. The client does not reside at the treatment facility.
- Outpatient and Continuing Care/Aftercare Services – These Level III and Level IV services usually include individual and/or group counseling services and the continuation of transitioning the client into other community-based support systems such as Alcoholics Anonymous/Narcotics Anonymous (AA/NA) groups, or sponsors in the community.

Austin Travis County MHMR Center agrees that the funds provided by the City shall not be used for medical services, including detoxification services that require medical direction or medical/health services.