

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Health and Human Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 16

Subject: Approve an ordinance accepting \$10,229 in grant funds from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Community Services Block Grant, and amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Health and Human Services Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20080908-002 to appropriate \$10,229 for the delivery of basic needs, case management, employment support, and preventive health services to low-income residents.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$10,229 is available from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Community Services Block Grant. The grant period is January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009. No City match is required.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Vince Cobalis, Asst. Director, Human Services, 972-5011; Cathleen Rodriguez, Healthy Neighborhood Services Manager, 972-5092; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

Prior Council Action: Approved Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget, September 8, 2008.

The City of Austin receives an annual formula-based Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA). The CSBG provides administrative support to a network of local Community Action Agencies that provide services to very low-income persons. The City of Austin is considered the "Community Action Agency" for Travis County. The program provides funding for the delivery of basic needs, case management, preventive health, and employment support services to low-income residents through the City's six (6) Neighborhood Centers.

The increased grant funds will allow for the purchase of school supplies, bus passes for employment interviews and medical appointments, and other operating expenses.

No performance increase is expected in the basic needs and public health nursing activities.

Statement Required by Corporate Budget: All department grant application requests are reviewed by the Budget Office prior to submission to ensure that the grant minimizes the financial impact to the City.