

AGENDA



Thursday, March 5, 2009

**Health and Human Services
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 8**

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of four 12-month contracts, to be effective March 1, 2009, with one 12-month renewal option for the delivery of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immune deficiency syndrome related services with the following providers: AIDS Services of Austin, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$233,605 with a 12-month renewal option in an amount not to exceed \$233,605 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$467,210; Austin Travis County MHMR in an amount not to exceed \$53,673 with a 12-month renewal option in an amount not to exceed \$53,673 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$107,346; The Wright House Wellness Center, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$122,762 with a 12-month renewal option in an amount not to exceed \$122,762 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$245,524; and Project Transitions, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$87,849 with a 12-month renewal option in an amount not to exceed \$87,849 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$175,698.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$290,435 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Approved Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department (HHSD). The contract period is March 1, 2009 to February 28, 2010. Funding for the five (5) months of the contract period October 1, 2009 through February 28, 2010, or for any extension options 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 for Human Services, 972-5011; Mark Peppler, Manager, HIV Resources Administration, 972-5081; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

Prior Council Action: Council approved Fiscal Year 2008-2009 budget, September 8, 2008.

BACKGROUND

The City of Austin Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) funds a broad array of health and social services for eligible individuals with human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immune deficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), in order to maintain or improve overall health and quality of life. The City continues to provide local funding for HIV services as part of the Maintenance of Effort requirement of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act of 2006, Part A and Part C grant programs. The City General fund support for these contracts helps secure approximately \$4.5 million in annual federal Ryan White grant funding.

Because the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act of 2006 sunsets on September 30, 2009, and the status of reauthorization is still unknown, the initiation of a competitive Request For Application (RFA) process for City-funded HIV/AIDS services has been postponed. Taking into consideration possible changes in the federal legislation, the City of Austin, Travis County, and the Travis County Healthcare District are collaborating on a comprehensive HIV planning strategy for future investment in the continuum of HIV services, including prevention, support services, and treatment. This will enable the HHSD to identify HIV/AIDS service gaps, prioritize service needs, and, in collaboration with Travis County and the Healthcare District, make informed decisions on how to best invest City, County and Healthcare District dollars to achieve desired outcomes. Based on the impact of Ryan White legislation reauthorization and on the completion of the HIV comprehensive planning process, an RFA will be released in either late 2009 or late summer of 2010 that will result in new contracts.

In order to maintain HIV services for individuals affected by HIV during this time, it is necessary to contract for an additional 12 month period from March 1, 2009 to February 28, 2010, with one 12-month renewal option. Current HIV social services contract amounts will be extended with Fiscal Year 2009 funds, which includes the 3.5 percent Council approved increase.

A funding summary by agency and HIV service area, along with associated performance measures is shown in Attachment A.