

AGENDA



Thursday, April 23, 2009

**Health and Human Services
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**
Item No. 29

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of four contracts, each for a five-month term beginning March 1, 2009, for the delivery of Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) related services with the following providers: AIDS SERVICES OF AUSTIN, INC., in an amount not to exceed \$321,089, with one seven-month renewal option in an amount not to exceed \$470,978 and one 12-month renewal option in an amount not to exceed \$792,067, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,584,134; AUSTIN TRAVIS COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH RETARDATION, in an amount not to exceed \$157,585, with one seven-month renewal option in an amount not to exceed \$231,150 and one 12-month renewal option in an amount not to exceed \$388,735, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$777,470; PROJECT TRANSITIONS, INC., in an amount not to exceed \$27,000 with one seven-month renewal option not to exceed \$39,603 and one 12-month renewal option in an amount not to exceed \$66,603, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$133,206; and THE WRIGHT HOUSE WELLNESS CENTER, INC., in an amount not to exceed \$37,947 with one seven-month renewal option in an amount not to exceed \$55,660 and one 12-month renewal option in an amount not to exceed \$93,607, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$187,214.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$543,621 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department Special Revenue Fund Ryan White Part A HIV Emergency Relief Project. The grant period is March 1, 2009 through February 28, 2010. Funding for the renewal options is contingent upon available funding.

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) received notice of a grant award (NGA) on March 7, 2009, in the amount of \$1,434,310, from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act Part A (Part A), HIV Emergency Relief Project Grant, for the period of March 1, 2009, through February 28, 2010. Due to restrictions imposed by the Continuing Resolution (CR) for Fiscal Year 2009, the amount initially available for Fiscal Year 2009 Part A funding on the CR is approximately 40% of the total Part A award for FY 2009. The final Fiscal Year 2009 budget has been passed by Congress and was signed by the President on March 11, 2009. Another NGA will be issued by DHHS for the balance of funds for Fiscal Year 2009.

The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act of 2006 sunsets on September 30, 2009. Since the status of reauthorization is still unknown, a competitive Request for Application (RFA) process for Ryan White Part A services will be delayed. In order to maintain HIV services for individuals affected by HIV during this time, it is necessary to enter into new contracts with renewal options through February of 2011. An RFA for new contracts will be released in either late 2009 or 2010. As a result of this action, HHSD will be able to develop an RFA based on the impact of Ryan White legislation reauthorization and

associated changes, as well as allow time for the completion of a comprehensive HIV/AIDS needs assessment process being conducted in collaboration with the HIV Planning Council.

The purpose of the Ryan White Emergency Relief Project is to provide support to clients who have been affected by HIV/AIDS and who reside in the five-county Transitional Grant Area (TGA) that includes Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, and Williamson counties. The program's goal is to assure access to primary medical care and medications as well as ensure the provision of critical support services necessary to maintain individuals in the system of HIV care. The Part A grant focuses on the delivery of outpatient ambulatory medical care, local AIDS pharmaceutical assistance, oral health care, mental health services, substance abuse services, case management, health insurance premium assistance, medical nutrition therapy, residential hospice, medical transportation, outreach, early intervention services, and food bank services to persons living with HIV/AIDS. These services are provided in partnership with local organizations.

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