Thursday, August 27, 2009

Health and Human Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 20

Subject: Approve an ordinance accepting \$10,000 in grant funds from AMERICA'S PROMISE ALLIANCE, Washington, D.C., and amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Health and Human Services Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20080908-002 to appropriate \$10,000 to conduct a local Dropout Prevention Summit.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from America's Promise Alliance. This grant period is January 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010. No City match is required.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

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

The America's Promise Alliance (APA) is the result of the 1997 Presidents' Summit for America's Future. Presidents Clinton, Bush, Carter and Ford challenged America to make children and youth a national priority. The APA's goal over the next five years is to reverse the trend of youth not completing high school. APA is providing financial support for Dropout Prevention Summits to be held across the country. The City of Austin has been approved for funding from APA to conduct a Dropout Prevention Summit. The funding from the APA will cover the cost of holding the summit at the local level.

The City's Dropout Prevention Summit will be "A Call to Service." Two hundred participants are expected to attend the summit. Participants will increase awareness about the dropout epidemic in Central Texas and the impact it has on youth, families and community. The summit will be held in January of 2010 during National Mentoring month. There is no anticipated impact to performance measures but the end result is that the number of students who receive tutoring, mentoring or advocacy by a caring, supportive adult will be increased.

Statement Required by Corporate Budget Office: 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.