Thursday, December 10, 2009

Health and Human Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 9

Subject: Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Health and Human Services Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance 20090914-002 to add one full-time equivalent position, resulting in a total of nine full-time equivalent positions for the Ryan White Part A HIV Emergency Relief Grant Program.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding for one full-time equivalent position increase is available in the amount of \$38,431 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration. The grant period is from March 1, 2009 to February 28, 2010. No City match is required.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Vince Cobalis, HSHD Asst. Director for Human Services, 972-5011; Dr. Philip Huang, Medical Director, 972-5408, Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

Prior Council Action: July 23, 2009 - Accepted \$539,739 in grant funds and amended Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget.

The Ryan White Part A program goal is to improve outcomes for individuals living with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) by ensuring access to and maintenance in HIV primary care and the provision of supportive services such as case management, food bank, transportation and health insurance continuation. These services are necessary to maintain individuals in the system of HIV care and prolong their quality of life. Services are provided throughout a five-county service delivery area, which includes Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays and Williamson Counties.

On April 17, 2009, HHSD received the final Rvan White Part A Notice of Grant Award (NGA) in the amount of \$4,078,739 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the Ryan White Part A Emergency Relief Project Grant. This amount represents a \$540,549 increase over HHSD's previous vear's award and a \$539,739 increase over the 2008-2009 approved grant appropriation. Council approved acceptance of the increased award on July 23, 2009, and awarded some contracts based on the increase and guidance from the HIV Planning Council (HIV PC). The Austin Area Comprehensive HIV Planning Council (HIV PC), which is responsible for prioritizing services and allocating Ryan White Part A funds for HIV services, decided to allocate \$194,634 for Medical Case Management, which is \$87,936 more than previous year. David Powell Community Health Center received \$106,698 level funding from the previous year and they indicated they are unable to increase those services beyond level funding. As a result of competition for the incremental funding difference, AIDS Services of Austin was awarded \$49,505 and the Health and Human Services Communicable Disease Unit was awarded \$38,431 for a grant funded Medical Social Worker (MSW). The new MSW will be implementing the Access Assistance Program (AAP). The new Medical Social Worker will work with HIV clients in developing an individualized service plan for each HIV client upon initial intake. The AAP will develop a form documenting the referrals given to clients to ensure linkage and follow-ups to help identify client's perception of potential barriers to various services.

The initial funding is through the grant period ending February 28, 2010. Ongoing funding is anticipated in the next grant period.

Statement Requirement 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.PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

The HHSD Related Department Goal:

Promotion/Prevention/Protection: Social Services - Promote and foster increased self-sufficiency, healthy behaviors and lifestyle among targeted populations.

Output:

The MSW will provide 2,400 units of service (15 minute increments) to 30 clients.

Outcome:

Ninety percent of clients assessed by the MSW will be seen by a medical provider and have a baseline viral load test and CD4 count run within 45 days after the initial meeting with the MSW.