

AGENDA



Thursday, December 10, 2009

Health and Human Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 14

Subject: Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$241,766 in additional grant funds from the TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN PROGRAM, and amending the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Health and Human Services Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20090914-002 to appropriate \$241,766 to maintain Women, Infants, and Children services and add five full-time equivalent positions.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the Texas Department of State Health Services, Women, Infants, Children Program. The grant period is October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010. No City match is required.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Shannon Jones, Assistant Director, 972-5410; Donna Sundstrom, Manager, 972-6844; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

Prior Council Action: September 14, 2009 - Approved the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Operating Budget.

The Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is a preventive program that targets women and children below 185 percent of federal poverty level. The WIC Program provides nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and nutritious foods to pregnant women, infants, and children up to age five.

The City's Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) WIC Program requested additional staffing and infrastructure to address growth in program participation. The additional funding for these expenses from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is a result of increased participation combined with an increased reimbursement rate (from \$11.28 to \$11.53 per participant).

Program participation increased 16.4 percent in the last fiscal year and more than 19.3 percent over the last two fiscal years. The program is expected to continue to expand. The increases equate to more than 60,000 additional benefits being issued in the clinic each year and have impacted delivery of services. Participants who miss their appointment are waiting over a month to reschedule. These delays prevent HHSD from addressing community needs and decreases reimbursement revenue.

The additional four Administrative Assistants and one Breastfeeding Peer Counselor FTEs are critical to maintaining services at a high level and continuing to meet the demand for services in our community.

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.

PERFORMANCE

HHSD Related Department Goal: Reduce the racial and ethnic infant mortality rates by 5 percent by 2012.

Number of participants in the Services for Women and Children activity will increase from 410,100 to 433,133 (WIC and WIC lactation grants both contribute to this measure).