Thursday, December 10, 2009

## Health and Human Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 16

**Subject:** Approve an ordinance accepting \$114,259 in grant funds from the TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES, DIVISION FOR PREVENTION AND PREPAREDNESS, HIV/STD 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 \$114,259 for the Sexually Transmitted Disease Control Program to provide clinical and preventive services to reduce the incidence of sexually transmitted diseases.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding is available from the Texas Department of State Health Services, Division for Prevention and Preparedness, HIV/STD Program, Austin, Texas. The grant period is January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010. No City match is required.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

**For More Information:** Philip Huang M.D., M.P.H., Medical Director, 972-5408; Shaintay Abudu, Program Manager, 972-5457; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

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

The Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS) allocates federal pass-through funds for the Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Control Grant to assist the City of Austin Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) in providing clinical and preventive services to the community in order to reduce the incidence of STDs. Program objectives focus on the reduction/elimination of syphilis and the prevention and reduction of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), gonorrhea, Chlamydia and other STDs within Travis County.

Prevention and control of STDs is accomplished through collaborative efforts with other health department programs and successful community partnerships. Program objectives are accomplished, in part, through services provided at the STD clinic located at 15 Waller Street in the RBJ Health Center. Patients are tested, diagnosed and treated for STDs at the STD clinic. HHSD also tests for disease in outreach settings such as bathhouses, bars and Travis County detention facilities for adults and youths, as well as specific locations in targeted areas of Austin where high-risk target populations are found. The additional funds will provide HIV Rapid Test Kits. Rapid testing allows patients to receive their test results the same day, usually at the encounter where the test specimen was collected and often within as little as 30 minutes. This can reduce the number of new infections and lead to reductions in HIV-associated morbidity and mortality. There is no anticipated increase in performance.

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.