Thursday, December 17, 2009

Health and Human Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 48

Subject: Approve negotiation and execution of two contracts to increase funding for the following providers of Ryan White Part A HIV Emergency Relief Grant Program mental health services: Amendment No. 3 to the contract with WATERLOO COUNSELING CENTER, INC., in an amount not to exceed \$14,143 for an annual contract amount not to exceed \$69,769 for the period March 1, 2009 through February 28, 2010, with one 12-month renewal option in an amount not to exceed \$69,769, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$139,538; and Amendment No. 2 to the contract with WRIGHT HOUSE WELLNESS CENTER, in an amount not to exceed \$14,143 for an annual contract amount not to exceed \$128,765 for the period March 1, 2009 through February 28, 2010, with one 12-month renewal option in an amount not to exceed \$128,765, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$257,530.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$28,286 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 Services grant. The grant period is March 1, 2009 to February 28, 2010

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Vince Cobalis, Assistant Director for Human Services, 972-5011, Mark Peppler, HIV Resources Administration Manager, 972-5081, Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023

Prior Council Action: Council approved first 12-month contract period, August 27, 2009.

The City of Austin Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) received a final notice of grant award (NGA) on April 20, 2009, in the amount of \$4,078,739 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the Ryan White Part A HIV Emergency Relief Services grant program for the period of March 1, 2009 through February 28, 2010.

The HIV Planning Council, which is responsible for prioritizing services and allocating Ryan White Part A funds for HIV services through its annual planning process, allocated \$326,442 for mental health services. All funding was initially awarded to four service providers as noted in the RCA approved on August 27, however, during contract negotiations MHMR C.A.R.E. Program and Texas Community Health Centers returned \$16,995 and \$11,291 in mental health funds, respectively, based on their projected service utilization. The returned mental health funds which total \$28,286 are being redistributed to two other providers of mental health services, Wright House Wellness Center and Waterloo Counseling Center. Both agencies have current Ryan White Part A contracts for the provision of mental health services.

The goal of the Ryan White program is to assure access to HIV primary medical care, medications, substance abuse services, mental health services and other core medical services as well as ensure the provision of critical support services necessary to maintain individuals in the system of HIV care. Services are provided to individuals residing in the a five-county service delivery area, which includes Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays and Williamson counties.

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.