

AGENDA



Thursday, February 25, 2010

**Health and Human Services
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**
Item No. 29

Subject: Approve negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Agreement with TRAVIS COUNTY for child visitation and exchange services for a seven-month term beginning March 1, 2010, in an amount not to exceed \$28,467.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department. The term of the Agreement is March 1, 2010 through September 30, 2010.

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

For More Information: Vince Cobalis, Assistant Director Human Services Division, 972-5011; Susan Gehring, Manager Community Based Resources, 972-5026; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

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

The Health and Human Services Department has funded child visitation and exchange services through a social service contract since Fiscal Year 1999-2000. The agency that operated the program stopped providing visitation and exchange services in 2008. The proposed agreement will provide funding for the Kids Exchange program which is managed by the Travis County Juvenile Probation, Domestic Relations Office. Additional funding is provided by Travis County.

Approval of the agreement with Travis County will provide support for safe, secure supervised visitation, therapeutic visitation, and neutral exchange services. Additional goals of the services are to ensure that children who are the subject of family litigation/visitation enforcement are able to have a relationship with both parents (when appropriate) in a safe, friendly, neutral environment and, to ensure that visitation for children is free of parental conflict, anger and family stressors. Eligible persons are low-income parents involved in pending family litigation or the Domestic Relations Visitation Enforcement Program and their children. Low-income is defined as gross family income at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines.

PERFORMANCE

Departmental Goal: Promote and foster increased self-sufficiency, healthy behaviors and lifestyle among targeted populations.

Outputs

Number of hours of supervised visitation. Goal: 235 hours

Number of families whose exchanges are supervised. Goal: 11 families

Number of hours of therapeutic visitation. Goal: 22 hours

Outcome

Percent of visitations and exchanges with no contact between parents. Goal: 100%.