Thursday, May 13, 2010

Health and Human Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 11

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement for Social Services with ANY BABY CAN OF AUSTIN, INC. to increase funding for parent education and family support services for the period May 1-July 31, 2010, in an amount not to exceed \$95,000, for a total contract amount for the current term (January 1-September 30, 2010) not to exceed \$328,985, and a total contract amount not to exceed \$640,966.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department. The period of the contract is January 1, 2010 through September 30, 2010. Funding for the renewal option is not increased and is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

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; Ron Hubbard, Early Childhood Coordinator, 972-5028; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

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

Approval of this Recommendation for Council Action (RCA) will authorize \$95,000 in increased funding for the current term of the Agreement for Social Services with Any Baby Can (ABC) for additional parenting and family support services. This funding was formerly budgeted for a contract with Austin Families, Inc. d/b/a FamilyConnections. ABC has experience delivering the needed services due to its existing contracts with the City and Travis County. The action will allow interrupted services to resume while the City conducts a competitive Request for Applications process to deliver the services beginning August 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011.

Parent education and family support services will focus on encouraging optimal child development both at home and at school, promoting emotional resilience, social competence, verbal communication skills, and school readiness; abuse/neglect prevention/reduction, preventing or mediating developmental delays, and increasing parenting skills and family stability. Service emphasis includes a number of criteria: targeting low income families below 200% of federal poverty guidelines that have additional risk factors such as involvement with Child Protective Services, developmental delays, teen parents, maternal depression, attachment disorders, single parent, or a parent with less than a high school education. ABC will attempt to re-open the family place resource library if permission to use the materials can be obtained.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Related Departmental Goal: Provision: Social Services – Promote and foster increased self-sufficiency, healthy behaviors, and lifestyle among targeted populations.

Because agreement negotiations are not yet complete, the performance goals described are estimates and may be adjusted as appropriate.

Outputs (unduplicated)

Number of parents provided child development services: Current Goal 125; Goal with increase 325 Number of parents visiting the family place library: 400

Outcomes

Percentage of parents that achieve established goals that improve child development outcomes: 82%