



TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Bert Lumbreras, Assistant City Manager

DATE: June 16, 2011

SUBJECT: Council Resolution No. 20110526-075

On May 26, 2011, Council passed a resolution directing the City Manager to amend the Health and Human Services Department budget with a one-time transfer of \$350,000 from the Sustainability Fund and \$200,000 from the General Fund. The resolution further directed the City Manager to solicit recommendations from the Early Childhood Council, the Hispanic/Latino Community Oversight Team and the African-American Resource Advisory Commission on the types of programs needed to fill the gap in social services for Austin youth and report back to Council by June 23, 2011.

The Hispanic/Latino Community Oversight Team met on June 6 and the African-American Resource Advisory Commission met on June 8. Each group empowered specific individuals to represent them in discussing final recommendations with the Early Childhood Council on June 14, 2011. The recommendations from the groups were focused on programs, not specific agencies. Based on feedback from all three groups, staff is making the following recommendation for use of the \$550,000:

1. Support for the Summer Youth Employment Program (\$56,250).
 - a. This would provide funding for 75 additional youth during the second summer session, at \$750 per youth participant.
 - b. The current City/County program funds 750 youth
2. Child Development (\$60,000):
 - a. Literacy services for low-income preschool and elementary age children in child care (including books for classrooms), WIC offices, health clinics, and low-performing public schools.
 - b. The books will be age and language appropriate. Bi-lingual and culturally sensitive books will be included.
 - c. An existing Social Services contract with BookSpring would be amended to purchase approximately 20,000 books.
3. Child Care Quality – child care training and scholarships (\$67,500):

- a. Evidence based social emotional (CLASS) training for providers (\$17,500)
 - b. Taking Charge of Change new cohort (\$25,000) 30 directors
 - c. College level scholarships toward early childhood course plans (\$25,000) ~ 25 scholarships
 - d. An existing contract with WorkSource would be amended for these items
- 4. Youth Development and Parenting for teens and teen parents: \$50,000
 - a. Services for low-income, at-risk including homeless and former foster children
 - b. Preparation for independent living materials such as household kits ~100 kits @\$300/ea.
 - c. \$20k for parenting education for teens
 - d. The contract with Youth and Family Alliance, dba LifeWorks, would be amended for this activity.
- 5. Services for Homeless Youth (\$186,250)
 - a. Services that target youth and young adults ages 10 to 23 in high-risk situations including homelessness, runaway, abandoned, and abused youth, and youth at-risk of imminent homelessness. Although the primary issue is homelessness, the target population includes youth who have experienced violence or abuse, substance abusers, youth involved with the criminal justice system, economically disadvantaged youth, pregnant and parenting teens, youth with physical or mental health problems and youth who engage in survival sex.
 - b. The services offered with this one-time funding include counseling, street outreach, housing services (utilizing AmeriCorps members), and GED/literacy services. The services are all strengths-based and solution-oriented.
 - c. The AmeriCorps program will specifically help youth in emergency shelter, transitional living, moms/babies program, and supportive housing achieve their educational goals.
 - d. The LifeWorks Housing and Homeless Services contract would be amended for this activity
- 6. Youth Development Services focused on African-American youth disparities: (\$65,000)
 - a. Services will include employment and job training
 - b. Short competitive process to award two \$32,500 administrative contracts with non-profit agencies not currently funded through Social Services
 - c. Primarily focused on services, with 5 % set aside for organizational capacity building to increase competitiveness for future City funding
 - d. Agencies must meet the standard Social Services Administrative and Fiscal Review requirements

7. Youth Enrichment Services focused on Hispanic/Latino youth disparities: (\$65,000)
 - a. Services to help build confidence and self esteem, decision making, conflict resolution and leadership
 - b. Short competitive process to award two \$32,500 administrative contracts with non-profit agencies not currently funded through Social Services
 - c. Primarily focused on services, with 5 % set aside for organizational capacity building to increase competitiveness for future City funding
 - d. Agencies must meet the standard Social Services Administrative and Fiscal Review requirements

If Council provides direction to staff on June 23, 2011, we can have the contract amendments and budget amendment ready for Council approval at the July 28, 2011 meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Vince Cobalis, Asst. Director, HHSD at 972-5011.

Cc: Marc A. Ott, City Manager
Shannon Jones, Acting Director, HHSD