

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	37709	Agenda Number	26.
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Meeting Date:	11/6/2014	Department:	Health and Human Services
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Subject

Approve negotiation and execution of a contract with FOUNDATION COMMUNITIES Inc. for insurance enrollment educational outreach and navigation services of the Affordable Care Act Health Insurance Marketplace, for a twelve-month term beginning on October 1, 2014 and ending on September 2015, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$100,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$100,000 is included in the Fiscal Year 2014-15 Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	On September 9, 2014, Council approved Ordinance No. 20140909-001 adopting the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Operating Budget.
For More Information:	Stephanie Hayden, Asst. Director, Human Services, 972-5017; Robert Kingham, Program Manager, 972-5026; Elena Shemilina, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5010.
Boards and Commission Action:	The Austin Area Comprehensive HIV Planning Council on September 24, 2013 allocated funds according to demonstrated need.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

More than 6.3 million Texans including 1.2 million children, lack health insurance. Texas' uninsurance rates, 1.5 to 2 times the national average, create significant problems in the financing and delivery of health care to all Texans. Racial and ethnic minorities are significantly less likely than the rest of the population to have health insurance. In Texas, 39 percent of Hispanics/Latinos, 22 percent of African Americans, and 20 percent of other races are uninsured. In Travis County, it is estimated that over 200,000 individuals do not have health insurance.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (ACA) was signed into law on March 23, 2010 to reform health care in America. The new health care law includes reforms to the affordability, quality, and availability of health insurance and new cost cutting measures, rules, and regulations for both public and private health insurance companies and the health care industry. The ACA aims to increase the amount of Americans who have access to affordable health insurance. This is done, in part, by providing tax credits to individuals who need assistance paying for insurance and opening up competitive, regulated, online health insurance exchanges where individuals can buy

insurance and receive cost-assistance. The Open Enrollment Period for coverage starting in 2015 is November 15, 2014 through February 15, 2015.

Foundation Communities Inc. provides affordable homes and free onsite support services for thousands of working families with kids, as well as veterans, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. They offer a model that empowers both their residents and non-residents to achieve educational success, financial stability, and healthier lifestyles. In October 2013, FOUNDATION COMMUNITIES INC. began assisting the uninsured and underinsured seeking to obtain coverage through the Affordable Care Act by a program called Insure Central Texas. Insure Central Texas is free and open to the community at two locations, Highland Mall and the Community Financial Center.

Performance Measures, as well as contract exhibits, will be negotiated with the staff of Foundation Communities Inc.

Related Departmental Goal: Provision: Social Services – Promote a healthy community by addressing the needs of vulnerable households.