

Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council Item ID 41923 Agenda Number 7.

Meeting Date: 4/2/2015 Department: Health and Human Services

Subject

Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$101,540 in grant funds from the TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS; and amending the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Health and Human Services Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20140908-001) to appropriate \$101,540 for the delivery of services to address basic needs of and to provide case management, employment support services, and preventive health services to low-income residents.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$101,540 is available from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. The grant period is January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

Fiscal Note	
A fiscal note is attached.	
Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	On September 8, 2014, Council approved the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Health and Human Services Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund Ordinance No. 20140908-001.
For More Information:	Carlos Rivera, Director, Health and Human Services Department, 972-5010; Stephanie Hayden, Assistant Director, 972-5017; Maria Allen, Neighborhood Services Unit Manager, 972-5086; Elena Shemilina, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5010.
Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

The City of Austin receives an annual formula-based Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA). The CSBG grant provides administrative support to a network of local Community Action Agencies that provide services to low-income residents. The City of Austin is considered the "Community Action Agency" for Travis County. The grant program provides funding for the delivery of services to address basic needs, case management services, preventive health services, and employment support services to low-income residents through the City's six neighborhood centers and three field offices.

TDHCA had initially estimated the 2015 CSBG allocation to be \$968,464 based upon expected reductions in funding from the federal government. On February 17, 2015, the Health and Human Services Department received official notice from TDHCA of the final 2015 allocation. The allocation was a \$101,540 increase over the original estimate. These increased funds allow for continued support of personnel who conduct CSBG activities and services, and provision of direct client assistance to help individuals achieve self-sufficiency and transition out of poverty. Approval of this item is time sensitive to ensure that the services are provided to the community. A delay in accepting these funds may negatively impact meeting the grant's performance measures and the funder may terminate or suspend funding. The general fund will not be required to contribute to this grant. This amendment will not affect performance measures.