

Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council Item ID 51765 Agenda Number 18.

Meeting Date: 11/12/2015 Department: Health and Human Services

Subject

Approve an ordinance authorizing the acceptance of \$67,794 in additional funds from the U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT through a contract with the City, and amending the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Health and Human Services Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance 20150908-001) to appropriate \$67,794 for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS services program that provides rental, mortgage, utility, and supportive services to people with the human immunodeficiency virus.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$67,794 is available from the Department of Housing and Urban Development by way of a contract with Neighborhood Housing and Community Development. The grant period is from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016. No City match is required.

Fiscal Note		
A fiscal note is attached.		
Purchasing Language:		
Prior Council Action:	On December 11, 2014 Council approved an ordinance to accept HOPWA funds for Fiscal Year 2014-2015, Item 38092 Agenda Number 43.	
For More Information:	Stephanie Hayden, Assistant Director for Community Services, 972-5017; Greg Bolds, Health Resources Administration Manager, 972-5081; Elena Shemilina, Agenda Coordinator 972-5033.	
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	Austin Area Comprehensive HIV Planning Council reviewed HOPWA funding to be used for purchase of housing services for people living with AIDS/HIV.	
MBE / WBE:		
Related Items:		
Additional Backup Information		

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) grant funds in the amount of \$1,117,794 for HIV-related housing services to be provided in the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area (EMSA). The EMSA includes Travis, Williamson, Hays, Bastrop, and Caldwell counties. Services under the HOPWA grant include short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance, tenant-based rental assistance, housing placement, and residential housing supportive services for HIV positive clients living in a qualified residential setting. Our annual grant award is formula driven and is a function of the total amount of HOPWA housing funds appropriated by the U.S. Congress and the reported number of AIDS cases. HUD/HOPWA grant funds may expand over three years from the date of the annual grant award.

While the Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Office is the single point of contact with HUD, the City designates the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department as the program administrator for the HOPWA program. As part of the HUD required citizen participation plan, input from the community was received and resulted in the continued support of both the Rent, Mortgage and Utility Assistance program, and the Residential Supportive Services program.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, the Health and Human Services Department's need for continuing funding will be evaluated and may be denied.

The proposed Fiscal Year 2015-2016 City of Austin HIV Consortium plan includes HOPWA funding distribution as follows:

Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Assistance	\$	793,378
Residential Supportive Services	\$	290,882
Administration	\$	33,534
	\$ 1	1.117.794

ATTACHMENT A:

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

HHSD Related Departmental Goal:

Promotion/Prevention/Protection: Social Services – Promote and foster increased self-sufficiency, healthy behaviors and lifestyle among targeted populations.

OUTPUT MEASURE:

Approximately, 377 unduplicated eligible households will receive any combination of assistance in the form of rental, mortgage, or utility services in varying amounts depending on a demonstrated need. One unit equates to one dollar of rental, mortgage, or utility assistance, plus a 7% transaction fee.

Approximately 49 unduplicated eligible households will receive residential housing and support services. One unit equates to one day of residential housing and support services, including meals, transportation, life skills training, counseling, and assistance in locating long-term housing.

OUTCOME MEASURES:

Maintain the percentage of homeless people receiving case management that move into safe and stable housing at a minimum level of 60%.