

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	66831	Agenda Number	27.
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Meeting Date:	1/26/2017	Department:	Public Health
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Subject

Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$32,228 in additional grant funds from the U.S. COMMITTEE FOR REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS (USCRI) and amending the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20160914-001) to appropriate \$32,228 for the Refugee Health Screening grant program that provides various medical screening services.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$32,228 is available from the United States Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI). The grant period is February 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017. A City funding match is not required.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached detailing the acceptance of the additional \$32,228 in grant funds.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	On September 14, 2016 Council approved Ordinance No. 20160914-001 adopting the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Operating Budget.
For More Information:	Shannon Jones, Director, Austin Public Health Department, 512-972-5010; Dr. Philip Huang, Medical Director, Austin Public Health Department, 512-972-5408, Saeed Azadi, Unit Manager, Communicable Disease Unit, 512-972-5413; Elena Lloyd, Agenda Coordinator, 512-972-5033.
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

Since 1995, the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS) has been allocating federal funds to Austin Public Health Department for the provision of comprehensive health screening services to newly arriving official refugees. Currently all services are provided with grant funds only.

On September 30, 2016 Austin Public Health Department received notification from TDSHS stating that the State of Texas will no longer administer the Refugee Resettlement Program after failing to reach agreement with the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). Services and benefits under the current TDSHS contract will be provided through January 31, 2017. The ORR has assigned the United States Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) as the new agency to administer the Refugee Health contracts state-wide, effective February 1, 2017, and federal funding will continue to originate from the ORR. USCRI awarded the City \$2,026,228, which is a \$32,228 increase from the \$1,994,000 that was anticipated and previously approved by Council when adopting the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 (Ordinance No. 20160914-001).

The Refugee Health Screening program provides medical screening services for TB, HIV, and STD, as well as immunizations, laboratory and diagnostic testing, parasite treatment, health assessments, primary care referrals, and mental health assessments to refugees, asylees, parolees, special immigrant visa holders, and victims of trafficking. In Fiscal Year 2015-2016, the Refugee Health Screening program provided services to 1,999 patients totaling 9,459 patient visits at the local Refugee Health Clinic in Austin, and provided over 13,000 vaccinations. No performance measures will be affected.

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