

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	68970	Agenda Number	26.
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Meeting Date:	3/23/2017	Department:	Public Health
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Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Easter Seals Central Texas, Inc. to provide rent and utility assistance services in an amount not to exceed \$103,221 for a nine-month period, with two twelve-month extension options in an amount not to exceed \$103,221, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$309,663.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$103,221 is available from the 2017 Community Services Block Grant allocation through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. The grant period is January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	On November 3, 2016 Council approved the Fiscal Year 2016 - 2017 Austin Public Health Department's Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20161103-024).
For More Information:	Shannon Jones, Director, 512-972-5010; Donna Sundstrom, Assistant Director, 512- 972-5039; Maria Allen, Manager, Neighborhood Services Manager, 512-972-5086; Elena Lloyd, Agenda Coordinator, 512-972-5033.
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	On October 11, 2016, the Community Development Commission voted to approve the CSBG 2017 Budget.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

The City 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 is considered the "Community Action Agency" for Travis County. The grant program provides funding for the delivery of basic needs, case management, preventive health services, and employment support services to low-income residents through the City's six neighborhood centers and three field offices.

As a requirement of CSBG, a portion of the funds allocated to the City is to be dedicated to direct client assistance in order to help persons attain self-sufficiency and transition out of poverty. In order to meet this requirement, the City's neighborhood centers set aside a portion of funds to help case management clients with rent and utility assistance. Easter Seals Central Texas, Inc. will serve as fiscal agent for the City to process payments to landlords and utility companies on behalf of case management clients. The majority of the contracted funds will be paid on behalf of case management clients to landlords and utility companies, and a small portion will be used by Easter Seals Central Texas, Inc. to cover the administrative costs associated with processing these payments.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute to this contract.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

Percent of clients enrolled in self-sufficiency case management who report a reduction or elimination of income barriers:	85%
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Number of unduplicated households case managed by the self-sufficiency activity:	300
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