



**Purchasing Service Agreement
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 28
AGENDA DATE: Thu 03/11/2004
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SUBJECT: Authorize execution of a six-month service agreement with ADVOCATE RX SOLUTIONS, Kingwood, TX for an Interim Director of Pharmacy in an amount not to exceed \$132,000.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Approved Operating Budget of the Community Care Services Department.

FISCAL NOTE: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

REQUESTING Purchasing
DEPARTMENT:for Community Care
Services;

**DIRECTOR'S
AUTHORIZATION:** Vickie Schubert

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Vikie DeLuyck, LMSW/Buyer II/972-4014

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

PURCHASING: Sole Source.

MBE / WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9 of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established.

The Community Care Services Department (CCSD) has managed its pharmacy operations without a Director of Pharmacy since January 16, 2004. Advocate Rx Solutions (ARS) provided a pharmacist to act as the Interim Director of Pharmacy (IDOP) for a two-month period under an administratively awarded sole source contract. ARS is a sister company to Pharmacy Healthcare Solutions, which provided CCSD with the assessment of its pharmacy operations approximately two years ago. ARA has also provided assistance to the Medical Assistance Program in beginning a 340B public health pricing program for its pharmacy operations.

The IDOP provided by ARS under the current sole source contract began reviewing current pharmacy operations. Results of the review indicated a significant backlog of prescriptions that had not been processed. Based upon this assessment and the need for continuity of management and planning, CCSD realizes it must contract for these interim services beyond the initial two-month period to bring stability to the pharmacy operations and manage pharmacy personnel.

This requested service agreement will allow continuation for another six months of the IDOP to provide direct oversight of the current pharmacy operations including, but not limited to:

- stabilization of staffing;
- updating of policies and procedures for pharmacy services;
- operational management, leadership and support;
- review, and/or making recommendations on formulary changes leading to budget savings while



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- supporting the community health centers' (CHC) clinical practice;
- making recommendations and implementing changes in order to eliminate the prescription dispensing backlog and improve prescription fulfillment;
- participating in the CHC Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee;
- providing direct oversight and leadership to the Pharmacists in Charge (PIC) at the various clinic locations;
- working directly with the Patient Services Director and staff who provide advice on design and operation for the various free drug programs (e.g. Share the Care and Patient Assistance Program);
- overseeing and maintaining license/certification renewals and inspections as needed;
- providing an analysis of clinical programs and inventory management processes and controls;
- managing, evaluating, advising and effecting any/all required or recommended changes related to the CHC central pharmaceutical warehouse, and
- assisting CCSD executive management in the development/implementation of a transition plan, if a proposal is approved in response to the recent RFP for outsourcing of the CHC's Class A medications.

Prior to the end of this agreement, the clinic pharmacy operations will be reorganized and the appropriate leadership position will be established.