



**RCA
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 20
AGENDA DATE: Thu 09/30/2004
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SUBJECT: Approve execution of a 12-month contract with AUSTIN HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, INC., Austin, TX, to provide services to assist disadvantaged youth in attaining construction trade skills while completing their GEDs in an amount not to exceed \$70,000 for the period of October 1, 2004 through September 30, 2005.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding in the amount of \$70,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Health and Human Services Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Grant period is October 1, 2004 through September 30, 2005. No city grant match is required.

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

REQUESTING Health and Human
DEPARTMENT: Services

**DIRECTOR'S
AUTHORIZATION:** David Lurie

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Vince Cobalis, Asst. Director for Human Services, 972-5011; Donna Jackson, HHSD Manager, 972-5017; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Budget.

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

PURCHASING: N/A

MBE / WBE: N/A

Background:

In May 2004, the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) was awarded a 30-month Youthbuild grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in the amount of \$400,000. The Youthbuild grant will provide disadvantaged young adults (ages 16-24) living in distressed communities with an opportunity to complete their high school education while attaining construction skills as a means to achieving self-sufficiency.

The program will offer on-site construction training that will result in the rehabilitation or construction of housing for homeless and/or low- and very low-income families. The intent of this program is to foster leadership skills, increase opportunities for placement in apprenticeship programs, and promote economic self-sufficiency. Youth are provided supportive social services as well as GED preparation instruction, leadership and entrepreneurship classes, and construction technology training through the Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services online plan room.

The grant proposal was a collaboration of agencies with specialized experience necessary for successful project implementation. The Youthbuild collaboration consists of: Austin Habitat for Humanity (construction training), Austin Independent School District (GED preparation training), Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services (online construction technology and entrepreneurship training) and



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HHSD (program coordination, youth development and supportive services).

Austin Habitat for Humanity will provide.

- A 40-week hands-on construction skills and on-the-job training program for Youthbuild participants.
- Construction theory and skills module education, safety training, construction training that can lead to certification through the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER).
- The opportunity to participate in various phases of residential home construction before finally utilizing newly acquired construction skills to build a single-family home from foundation to finish.
- Classroom space for construction training and materials.

Austin Habitat for Humanity will also provide \$95,000 of in-kind contributions in the form of construction materials and volunteer hours. These contributions will be used to leverage Youthbuild program funds.

Performance Measures:

Related Goals:

Promote and foster increased self-sufficiency, healthy behaviors and lifestyle among targeted population.

Outputs:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| • Number of youth to participate in construction training program (unduplicated) | 25 |
| • Number of youth graduating from construction training program (unduplicated) | 17 |
| • Number of on-site construction training hours to be completed by each participant | 750 |
| • Number of residential classroom construction training hours to be completed by each participant | 288 |
| • Number of safety training hours to be completed by each participant | 32 |

Outcomes:

- | | |
|--|--------|
| • Number of low-income homes added to the COA housing market as a result of Youthbuild | 1 unit |
| • Percent of youth graduating from construction training program | 70% |
| • Percent of clients highly satisfied with construction training | 90% |

Requested Council Action:

Council is requested to approve execution of a 12-month contract with AUSTIN HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, INC., Austin, TX 78702. to provide services that assist disadvantaged youth in attaining construction trade skills while completing their GEDs in an amount not to exceed \$70,000 for the period of October 1, 2004 through September 30, 2005.