



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

**AGENDA ITEM NO.:** 11  
**AGENDA DATE:** Thu 11/18/2004  
**PAGE:** 1 of 4

**SUBJECT:** Approve a resolution authorizing execution of five separate 12-month contracts to provide food and housing assistance between the City of Austin and ANY BABY CAN OF TEXAS, INC, CARITAS OF AUSTIN, MEALS ON WHEELS AND MORE, INC., AND SAFEPLACE for a total cost of \$758,704.

**AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING:** Funding is included in the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Approved Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department.

**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; Stephnie Connell, Human Services Administration Manager, 972-5126; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:** Approved 2004-2005 Operating Budget, September 13, 2004

**BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION:** N/A

**PURCHASING:** N/A

**MBE / WBE:** N/A

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**Background**

In response to the economic downturn in 2001-2002, the City Council provided supplemental funding to assist with the growing demand for food and housing assistance and to assist victims of violence, abuse and/or neglect. At that time, \$500,000 was added to the budget for Supplemental Basic Needs and \$300,000 was added for supplemental funding for SafePlace. The supplemental funding has been reinstated each year, with a 5.16 percent reduction imposed in Fiscal Year 2003-2004 and extended in Fiscal Year 2004-2005. Services provided in these supplemental contracts are part of the safety net/infrastructure investment category.

Safety net/infrastructure agencies provide services that stabilize or provide acute treatment/intervention services to meet urgent health, safety and subsistence needs of individuals who have the fewest resources or are least able to secure services or to persons who are victims of violence, abuse or neglect.

**Recommendations**

Contracts were negotiated to meet the authorized funding and address, to the extent possible, the strategies that were developed by City and County staff for each issue area.



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The Supplemental Basic Needs program provides an average of up to \$750 in one time emergency rent and utility assistance to clients. This program is being continued under the proposed contracts, but a separate pilot project is also being tested. The Basic Needs Coalition, a Community Action Network sponsored planning group, also developed the Best Single Source project, an innovative collaborative model that reconfigures the system for providing basic needs services (rent, food, and utility assistance) to constituents in the Austin area. The new system represents a breakthrough approach that centralizes intake, links various agencies electronically, and simplifies access to services for clients experiencing emergencies and in immediate danger of losing their housing. Under this pilot project, an average of up to \$1,200 will be provided to 205 clients for a 3-month period. Participants in this project include Caritas, as the fiscal agent for the project, and six other agencies. The Best Single Source Pilot project received funding from AMD and a private donor for start-up costs, a project coordinator, and a shared data management system, and Travis County has committed \$250,000 for the project. Four (4) agencies funded in last year's Supplemental Basic Needs program agreed to reallocate a portion of their previous funding to this new project: Caritas (50%), Any Baby Can (50%), Meals on Wheels (50%) and AIDS Services of Austin (100%).

The SafePlace supplemental contract was initiated in response to an expansion of their Family Shelter capacity in 2002. The Family Shelter serves women and men, and their children, who have experienced domestic violence and are in need of safe, emergency shelter as a consequence. In addition to emergency shelter, clients receive safety planning, basic needs assistance, counseling, support groups, case management and advocacy as well as structured and therapeutic children's services. These funds will provide 5,690 shelter bed nights for an additional 200 domestic violence victims.

The term for the five Supplemental contracts will begin on January 1, 2005 and end on December 31, 2005. Attachment A provides a list of the Supplemental contractors with the Calendar Year 2005 City contract amount for each.

**Performance Measures**

These services support the Health and Human Services Department's goal of promoting and fostering increased self-sufficiency, healthy behaviors and lifestyle among targeted populations.

Outputs

<u>Issue Area</u>	<u>Performance Measure</u>	<u>FY04-05 Target</u>
Basic Needs	Number of clients served	668
Violence and Victimization	Number of clients served	200

Outcomes

<u>Issue Area</u>	<u>Performance Measure</u>	<u>FY04-05 Target</u>
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Basic Needs	Percent of clients surveyed that rate services received meeting their immediate basic needs	95%
Violence and Victimization	Percent of clients in a safer situation	79%

**Requested Council Action**

Council is requested to approve a resolution authorizing execution of 12-month contracts between the City of Austin and five social service agencies (see attached list of contractors), at a total cost of \$758,704.



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**Attachment A: SUPPLEMENTAL Social Service Contracts**

	<b>Agency Name</b>	<b>FY04-05 AMOUNT</b>
1	Any Baby Can of Austin, Inc. - Supplemental Basic Needs	18,968
2	Caritas of Austin - Best Single Source (BSS) Pilot Project	253,692
3	Caritas of Austin - Supplemental Basic Needs	146,998
4	Meals on Wheels and More, Inc. - Supplemental Basic Needs	54,532
5	SafePlace - Supplemental funding for Additional Shelter Beds	284,514
	<b>TOTAL - SUPPLEMENTAL SOCIAL SERVICES</b>	<b>\$758,704</b>

**RESOLUTION NO. 041118-**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

The Council approves 12-month social service contracts with the social service agencies listed in attached Exhibit "A" in the corresponding amounts at a total cost not to exceed \$758,704, and authorizes the City Manager or her designee to enter into such contracts on such terms as may be favorable or necessary.

**ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_ November 18 \_\_\_\_\_, 2004

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

Shirley A. Brown  
City Clerk

## **Exhibit A**

<b>Agency Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Any Baby Can of Austin, Inc. - Supplemental Basic Needs	\$ 18,968
Caritas of Austin - Best Single Source (BSS) Pilot Project	\$253,692
Caritas of Austin - Supplemental Basic Needs	\$146,998
Meals on Wheels and More, Inc. - Supplemental Basic Needs	\$ 54,532
SafePlace - Supplemental funding for Additional Shelter Beds	\$284,514
<b>TOTAL - Supplemental Social Services</b>	<b>\$758,704</b>