



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

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 13
AGENDA DATE: Thu 01/26/2006
PAGE: 1 of 2**

SUBJECT: Authorize execution of a 12-month contract with the COUNCIL ON AT-RISK YOUTH (CARY), Austin, TX, for youth training and counseling services, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$150,000.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding in the amount of \$150,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2005-2006 Approved Operating Budget for the Health and Human Services Department. The contract period will be October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006.

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: September 12, 2005; Approved Fiscal Year 2005-2006 Operating Budget.

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

PURCHASING: N/A

MBE / WBE: N/A

Background

The Council on At-Risk Youth (CARY) was organized to reduce the number of physical and/or verbal violence incidents among program participants who are already in the school disciplinary system. The objectives include implementation of a 12-month program including (1) violence prevention skills training, (2) individual counseling, and (3) service learning projects for students referred by school authorities.

Program Description

Youth served will include middle school students enrolled at the Alternative Learning Center, Bedichek, Dobie and Webb Middle Schools who have been referred to the school disciplinary system and then to CARY. Also, students who are typically behind academically, and have behavioral management problems and come from families characterized as dysfunctional with poverty, drug and alcohol abuse, and who may have incarcerated family members.

The target population includes 11- through 15-year-old male and female middle school students who have been assigned to in-school or out-of-school suspension, or placed in disciplinary detention, or selected by principals as needing intervention, or removed from class and assigned to the disciplinary Alternative



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PAGE: 2 of 2**

Learning Center. Behaviors that are common to the target population include assault, abuse, aggression, insubordination, bullying, sexual harassment, intimidation of others, destruction of school property, sale of dangerous drugs, and/or possession of weapons.

Performance Measures

Related Goals

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

Outputs

- | | |
|---|-----|
| • Number of unduplicated students served | 250 |
| • Number of students participating in Violence Prevention Group Skills Training | 188 |
| • Number of students participating in Individual Behavioral Counseling | 125 |

Outcome

- | | |
|--|-----|
| • Percentage of students completing individual counseling with improved attitudes, improved behaviors and improved social skills | 75% |
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Requested Council Action

Council is requested to authorize execution of a 12-month contract with the COUNCIL ON AT-RISK YOUTH (CARY), Austin, TX, for youth training and counseling services, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$150,000.