

AGENDA



Thursday, July 27, 2006

 [Back](#)  [Print](#)

Health and Human Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

ITEM No. 13

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment #1 to the 12-month Best Single Source Project contract with CARITAS OF AUSTIN, Austin, TX, to provide additional basic needs assistance in an amount not to exceed \$100,000, for a total 12-month contract amount not to exceed \$400,429, with five 12-month renewal options in a total amount not to exceed \$300,429 per renewal option, for a combined total contract cost to the City not to exceed \$1,902,574.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$100,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2005-2006 Approved Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department. Funding for the balance of the contract is contingent upon available funding in future budgets. The contract period is January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Additional Backup Material

(click to open)

 [BSS Caritas Amdmt #1](#)

For More Information: Vince Cobalis, Asst. Director for Human Services, 972-5011; Susan Gehring, HS Program Manager, 972-5026; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023

Prior Council Action: May 25, 2006, by Resolution No. 20060525-051

06 CARITAS BSS Amdmt #1 - \$100,000

Background

The Basic Needs Coalition, a Community Action Network sponsored planning group, has developed and implemented a collaborative delivery system for basic needs assistance—the Best Single Source (BSS) project. This collaborative system addresses basic needs issues for clients experiencing emergencies and in immediate danger of losing their housing. Through BSS, clients are provided up to \$1,200 of direct financial assistance and receive three months of case management services through existing agency resources. Caritas of Austin was chosen as the fiscal/administrative agent for BSS; there are currently nine participating partner agencies.

Based on information from United Way's most recent 211 annual report, inquiries regarding basic needs assistance increased significantly, when compared to the previous year's data. Requests for utility assistance increased 24% during United Way's 2004/2005 Fiscal Year, while requests for rent assistance increased 11% during the same period (compared to the 2003/2004 Fiscal Year). Recent BSS service projections are consistent with the increased demand evidenced by the 211 basic needs inquiries; without additional support to address emergency housing and utility assistance needs, the BSS project would exhaust direct assistance funding near the end of October, or incorporate other restrictions.

Prior to FY06, the BSS project was funded with one-time funding, initially as a pilot project. Supplemental funding was also provided to SafePlace. In FY06 Council incorporated funding for both programs into the base budget. As a result, there are unallocated funds available for distribution. \$100,000 of those funds is proposed to increase the available funds in the BSS project. There has been high demand and good success with this program this year. Since 90% of the funding goes into direct assistance to clients, the one-time funding can be managed by the BSS partners, without creating a demand for ongoing operations.

Performance Measures

Services provided under this contract support the Health and Human Services Department's goal of promoting and fostering increased self-sufficiency, healthy behaviors, and lifestyles among targeted populations.

Outputs

	<u>Orig.</u>	<u>New Amend.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
• Number of unduplicated clients provided basic needs services	272	75	347
• Number of unduplicated clients completing case management for three months	219	30*	249

(*Note: 30 represents the number of clients expected to complete three months of case management within the contract year. Others, who begin case management during the October-December period, would complete case management during the following contract year.)

Outcome

• Percent of unduplicated clients who received case management for three months and achieved equal or better housing/household stability	90%
--	-----

Requested Council Action

Council is requested to approve execution of Amendment #1 to the 12-month Best Single Source Project contract with CARITAS OF AUSTIN, Austin, TX, to provide additional basic needs services in an amount not to exceed \$100,000, for a total 12-month contract amount not to exceed \$400,429, with five 12-month renewal options in a total amount not to exceed \$300,429 per renewal option for a combined total cost to the City not to exceed \$1,902,574.