

AGENDA



Thursday, January 28, 2010

**Health and Human Services
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**
Item No. 28

Subject: Approve negotiation and execution of five 19-month contracts beginning February 1, 2010, for the provision of homeless services and permanent supportive housing; YOUTH AND FAMILY ALLIANCE (dba LifeWorks) in a total amount not to exceed \$408,330; FOUNDATION COMMUNITIES, INCORPORATED in a total amount not to exceed \$449,698; VINCARE SERVICES OF AUSTIN FOUNDATION in a total amount not to exceed \$400,000; CARITAS OF AUSTIN in a total amount not to exceed \$312,470; and TRAVIS COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVAL CENTER (dba SafePlace) in a total amount not to exceed \$100,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department Special Revenue Fund, Homeless Housing and Services Program grant. The grant period is December 1, 2009 through August 31, 2011.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact.

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

Prior Council Action: December 10, 2009 - Council approved the ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Health and Human Services Operating Budget.

During the 81st Legislative Session, the Texas Legislature appropriated \$20,000,000 over the biennium to be administered by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) to fund the Homeless Housing and Services Program (HHSP) in the eight largest cities in Texas. The City of Austin was awarded \$1,922,498 in grant funds from TDHCA for HHSP.

The City of Austin's HHSP is focused on two primary areas: (1) Services for those who are currently homeless: case management, mental health, substance abuse or other services necessary to move people from homelessness to safe and stable housing and (2) Services for those in permanent supportive housing (PSH), including rent subsidies for new PSH units, case management, mental health, substance abuse, employment or other services to help individuals maintain housing.

A Request for Applications (RFA) 2009-011 in the amount of \$1,670,498 was released to secure services for the HHSP.

The recommended contracts expand the capacity and reach of existing homeless services programs and broaden the availability of permanent supportive housing units to individuals and families who are homeless. These programs will serve youth, families, single adults, ex-offenders and victims of domestic/sexual violence.

HHSD recommends approval of the following 19-month contracts:

YOUTH AND FAMILY ALLIANCE (DBA LIFEWORKS) – total contract amount of \$408,330

Eight new Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) units and intensive case management, mental health counseling, job training for youth aged 18 to 24 who are homeless or have aged out of the Foster Care System. An estimated 85 individuals will be served.

FOUNDATION COMMUNITIES INC. – total contract amount of \$449,698

Ten new PSH units and support services for the Children's Home Initiative and support services for single adult men at three Single-Room Occupancy communities. The agency is partnering with Family Eldercare and Workforce Solutions. An estimated 375 individuals will be served.

VINCARE SERVICES OF AUSTIN FOUNDATION – total contract amount of \$400,000

Eighteen new PSH units and support services for single women with children who are homeless. The agency is partnering with Goodwill for employment services. An estimated 60 individuals will be served.

CARITAS OF AUSTIN – total contract amount of \$312,470

Ten new PSH units with comprehensive support services including, case management, mental health, substance abuse, and employment services for ex-offenders. The agency is partnering with Crime Prevention Institute, Goodwill and San Antonio Alternative Housing Corporation. An estimated 15 individuals will be served.

TRAVIS COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVAL CENTER (DBA SAFEPLACE) – total contract amount of \$100,000

Support services and direct financial assistance to help transition survivors of domestic/sexual violence into safe and stable housing. An estimated 55 individuals will be served.

All department grant application requests are reviewed by the Budget Office prior to submission to ensure that the grant minimizes the financial impact to the City.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Related Goals – Promotion/Prevention/Protection: Social Services Promote and foster increased self-sufficiency, healthy behaviors and lifestyle among targeted populations

Outputs:

Total Estimated Number of Individuals Who Are Homeless Served with HHSP Funds: 590

Total Estimated number of new permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Units Created: 46

Outcomes:

Total Estimated Percentage of Individuals Served with HHSP Funds Transitioning To or Remaining In Safe and Stable Housing: 76%