Thursday, April 29, 2010

Health and Human Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 27

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement for Social Services with CHILD, INC. to increase funding for the remainder of the initial term, May 1-July 31, 2010, by an amount not to exceed \$141,884 for child care voucher services for an initial term contract amount not to exceed \$393,022, for a total contract not to exceed \$797,872.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$91,884 is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Operating Budget of the Neighborhood Housing and Community Services Office through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and \$50,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department Special Revenue Fund, Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Recovery Act Fund. The CSBG grant period is August 1, 2009 to September 30, 2010. The period of the contract is January 1, 2010 through September 30, 2010. Funding for the renewal option is not increased, and is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

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

For More Information: Vince Cobalis, Assistant Director Human Services Division, 972-5011; Ron Hubbard, Early Childhood Coordinator, 972-5028; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

Prior Council Action: Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Operating Budget approval September 14, 2009.

This Recommendation for Council Action (RCA) will authorize a contract increase for Child, Inc. a current City social services provider, for the agency to temporarily operate the Bridge Child Care Voucher Program and CSBG Child Care Voucher Program, child care voucher services for low-income families, temporarily. The temporary services for the period: May 1, 2010 through July 31, 2010, will allow the City time to issue an expedited Request for Applications to find a long-term contractor for the Bridge and CSBG Programs. The original contract's renewal period and the scope of services for the renewal period is unchanged. The action is required to maintain services to at-risk children in care and allow new enrollments since the previous contractor has ceased operations. The CSBG program is funded with American Recovery and Reimbursement Act funds, and is one time funding.

On December 17, 2009, council authorized an agreement with Child, Inc. for a total contract amount not-to-exceed \$585,988. This action will increase that overall not-to-exceed amount to \$797,872. The contract approved by Council in December 2009 included an initial 9 month term with funds in the amount of \$251,138. The amount for the initial 9-month term by this action will be increased by \$141,884 the funds for childcare services from May 1 through July 31, 2010, for a not-to-exceed amount of \$393,022 for the initial term. Council authorized for the second term a renewal option in the amount of \$334,850 for the period of October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011. By this action the total not-to-exceed amount of the initial term and the renewal option together equals \$797,872.

Before this Amendment No. 2 item reaches Council Agenda, HHSD intends to administratively execute Amendment No. 1 to add the child care voucher work statement to the contract's scope of work for the initial term. Amendment No. 1 will not include any funding.

The urgency of this action is to maintain services for approximately 42 children from 28 families who are currently receiving services, and who are at risk of losing the services if the child care providers are not paid. Also, new enrollments are currently frozen and agencies do not have other child care resources for their families. The families are all low income and homeless or near-homeless, and loss of child care might further destabilize the families' condition.

The program takes referrals from case managers at multiple non-profit agencies that serve at-risk families. Child care is provided for up to six months to assist the families with their transition to a more stable situation. Typically, clients of the Bridge Program are not eligible for other subsidized child care. The Program also works with clients to apply for longer term child care services as they become eligible. Assistance in finding licensed or registered child care is provided to the parents.

Statement Required by Corporate Budget: 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 Departmental Goal: Provision: Social Services – Promote and foster increased self-sufficiency, healthy behaviors, and lifestyle among targeted populations.

Outputs

Number of children provided direct child care services (unduplicated): 85 children.