Thursday, May 27, 2010

Health and Human Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 29

Subject: Approve execution of an Interlocal Agreement with Austin Travis County Mental Health Mental Retardation Center dba Austin Travis County Integral Care Center (ATCICC) for sharing limited suicide data, for a one-year term beginning on April 10, 2010, with three one-year renewal options.

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

For More Information: Dr. Philip Huang, Medical Director, 972-5408; Janet Pichette, Manager, Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance Unit, 972-5486; Laura Polio, Interim Agenda Coordinator, 972-5010.

House Bill 1067 (HB 1067), enacted during the 2009 Texas legislative session, authorizes the local vital statistics registrar and certain other "authorized entities," as defined in HB 1067, to enter into agreements to share specific information about deaths by suicide. Austin Travis County Mental Health Mental Retardation Center dba Austin Travis County Integral Care Center (ATCICC) will compile and evaluate suicide data and has requested that the local vital statistics registrar's office provide authorized information.

HB 1067 allows the sharing of limited, de-identified data associated with suicide deaths so that mental health and public health authorities can work with suicide prevention advocates and other local community groups to implement community-specific suicide prevention strategies and interventions. No information that would permit the identification of a deceased person will be provided. No funding is required by either party.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Related Department Goal: Promote a healthy community by preventing chronic and communicable diseases and promoting improvements in social/economic/environmental factors that will result in an improved overall health status and a reduction of health disparities.

Outputs/Outcomes

Under this agreement, Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) will prepare quarterly reports (based on data specified in HB 1067) for deaths by suicide, and produce an annual report on suicide deaths in the City of Austin, Texas by May 1 of each calendar year.

ATCICC will be the recipient of quarterly and annual reports produced by HHSD. Within thirty (30) days of each calendar quarter, HHSD will provide all information and reports generated with this data. No other performance measures exist at this time.

ATCICC is required to prepare and provide quarterly reports to HHSD, based upon suicide data received from HHSD and from other community sources.