Thursday, July 29, 2010

Health and Human Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 32

Subject: Authorize execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES to purchase human immunodeficiency virus medications for eligible clients under the City's Ryan White Part A HIV Emergency Relief Project grant, for a one-year term effective March 1, 2010, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) Special Revenue Fund, Ryan White Part A HIV Emergency Relief Project grant program. The grant period is March 1, 2010 to February 28, 2011.

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

For More Information: Vince Cobalis, Assistant Director for Human Services, 972-5011, Mark Peppler, HIV Resources Administration Manager, 972-5081, Laura Polio, Interim Agenda Coordinator, 972-5010.

Prior Council Action: Council approved the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Budget, September 14, 2009.

The City of Austin Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) received a final notice of grant award (NGA) on April 5, 2010, in the amount of \$4,348,975 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for the Ryan White Part A HIV Emergency Relief Project Grant program. The grant period is March 1, 2010 through February 28, 2011.

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency of DHHS, has authorized specific HIV service categories for allocation of Part A funds. One of these HRSA-defined categories is the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), a program administered by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and authorized under Part B of the Ryan White Grant Program. ADAP provides Federal Drug Administration (FDA)-approved medications to low-income individuals with HIV disease who have limited or no coverage from private insurance, Medicaid, or Medicare. The Ryan White HIV Planning Council has allocated funds to this service category, including any unobligated grant funds identified during the last quarter of the grant year.

The proposed City of Austin contract with the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) will help serve the growing number of clients living with HIV who reside in the Austin Transitional Grant Area (TGA) comprised of Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, and Williamson counties. DSHS will provide eligible clients residing in the TGA with approved formulary medications supplied by the Texas ADAP.

The cost of providing HIV medications increases each year and the additional medications purchased through this agreement will help offset the rising cost of HIV medications. Other Texas Part A jurisdictions, currently the Dallas Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA) and the San Antonio TGA, have an ADAP contract with DSHS.

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:

HHSD Related Departmental Goal:

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

OUTPUT MEASURE:

Under the attached agreement, HHSD estimates that the Texas Department of State Health Services' AIDS Drug Assistance Program will provide approximately 460 prescriptions for HIV medications at an average cost of \$434 per prescription for eligible clients residing in the Austin TGA.