

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	62592	Agenda Number	15.
Meeting Date:	9/22/2016		Department:	Health and Human Services
Subject				
Authorize negotiation and execution of a 24-month interlocal agreement with the Health And Human Services Commission for the Community Partner Program, to assist citizens apply for benefits electronically at six neighborhood centers and one outreach location.				
Amount and Source of Funding				
No funding is required.				
Fiscal Note				
A fiscal note is not required.				
Purchasing Language:				
Prior Council Action:	On February 13, 2014, Council authorized execution of a 24 month Inter-local Agreement between the City of Austin HHSD and the Health and Human Services Commission for the Community Partner Program.			
For More Information:	Shannon Jones, Director, 512-972-5010; Donna Sundstrom, Acting Assistant Director; 512-972-5039; Maria Allen, Manager, Neighborhood Services Manager, 512-972-5086; Estella Kirscht, Agenda Coordinator, 512-972-5039.			
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:				
MBE / WBE:				
Related Items:				
Additional Backup Information				
<p>The Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) offers a Community Partner Program, whereby eligible entities provide assistance to citizens needing to electronically file applications for enrollment in public assistance benefits programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistant Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Medicaid, Long-term Care Services, and the Children’s Health Insurance Program. According to a report by the Texas Hunger Initiative, only 57% of income-eligible Travis County residents receive SNAP benefits. If the additional 43% of eligible residents had received benefits, Travis County could have seen an additional estimated \$303,054,609 in economic activity.</p> <p>The City’s Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) proposes to enter into a 24-month Interlocal Agreement with HHSC in order to provide online application assistance to citizens at six neighborhood centers and one outreach location. The City’s neighborhood centers currently provide basic-needs services to citizens, including emergency food, case management, and preventive health services. Participation in the HHSC Community Partner program will enable HHSD to reduce barriers to enrollment in SNAP and other HHSC benefit programs.</p> <p><u>Output Measure:</u> Number of unduplicated persons served by neighborhood centers for basic needs, 70000</p> <p>Related Departmental Goal: Assist people in achieving stability and self-sufficiency.</p>				