

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: November 29, 2018

Item Number: **017**

Public Health

Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with Austin Travis County Mental Health Mental Retardation Center, dba Integral Care to provide homeless rapid re-housing services in an amount not to exceed \$400,000 for a 10-month term beginning December 1, 2018, with four 12-month extension options not to exceed \$400,000 per extension option, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.

Lead Department	Austin Public Health.
Fiscal Note	Funding in the amount of \$400,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Austin Public Health Department’s Operating Budget. Funding for the remaining years of the agreement is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.
For More Information	Stephanie Y. Hayden, Director, 512-972-5010; Adrienne Sturup, Assistant Director, 512-972-5167; Vella Karman, Social Services Policy Manager, 512-972-5064; Estella Kirscht, Agenda Coordinator, 512-972-5039.

Additional Backup Information:

Approval of this item will authorize Austin Public Health to negotiate and execute an agreement with Integral Care for the provision of rapid re-housing services for individuals experiencing homelessness with proven barriers to transitioning out of homelessness on their own. The population of clients served through this program will be connected to the Austin Resource

Center for the Homeless (ARCH).

On April 20, 2018, Austin Public Health issued a Request for Applications (RFA No. RR2018TPS) with a deadline of May 18, 2018 and received four applications. The objective of this competitive solicitation was to establish one or more agreements with qualified nonprofits or government entities for the provision of rapid re-housing services for individuals and/or families experiencing homelessness. Three applicants were awarded agreements that began July 1, 2018.

With adoption of the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018, Council approved new homeless services funding with rapid re-housing designated as one of the primary purposes. Integral Care was the fourth applicant of RFA No. RR2018TPS, and is now recommended to receive this additional funding for a new program called Rapid Recovery: Shelter to Housing.

Integral Care has served individuals experiencing homelessness for over 20 years. Last year, Integral Care served over 3,000 individuals experiencing homelessness by providing a wide array of services, including outreach, shelter, rapid re-housing and permanent supportive housing. Integral Care currently has 21 homeless services programs and over 100 homeless services staff. The Rapid Recovery: Shelter to Housing program will serve individuals who have been experiencing homelessness for years, or sleep unsheltered, and utilize the ARCH for basic needs without having been connected to housing resources. Program participants will receive wrap-around services, including housing stability case management, landlord outreach, supported employment, access to Supplemental Security Income/Social Security Disability Income Outreach, Access, and Recovery (also known as SOAR) services, access to mental health care, counseling, substance use services, and other medical services as needed.

According to a December 2017 briefing from the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, rapid re-housing is an evidence-based intervention for individuals and families experiencing homelessness that is cost effective, has high rates of placement into permanent housing, and increases family self-sufficiency. The Ending Community Homelessness Coalition Draft Needs and Gaps Report released September 1, 2017 identified 70% of 2,600 (or 1,820) homeless households in Austin/Travis County are in need of rapid re-housing services. The rapid re-housing service-model aligns with proposed actions in the Action Plan to End Homelessness endorsed by Council on April 26, 2018. Additionally, outcomes of this program will impact multiple homeless metrics in Austin's Strategic Direction 2023, adopted by Council on March 8, 2018.