



Recommendation for Action

File #: 19-1311, **Agenda Item #:** 19.

3/28/2019

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20180911-001) to accept and appropriate \$115,000 in additional grant funds from United Way for Greater Austin (UWATX) for the implementation of the Texas Family Connects Program; and authorizing negotiation and execution of an amendment to a contract with UWATX extending the term from September 1, 2018 through August 31, 2019 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$785,000.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available from United Way for Greater Austin (UWATX). The grant period for the contract is September 1, 2018 - May 31, 2019. The additional amount extends the contract to August 31, 2019. A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

Ordinance no. 20180322-022 was approved by Council 10-0; Council Member Pool was absent.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

United Way for Greater Austin serves as the administrative and fiscal agent for direct home visiting services of federally approved models in Travis County. United Way for Greater Austin would be subcontracting with Austin Public Health to implement the Texas Family Connects Program.

Family Connects is a voluntary, short-term nurse home-visiting program offered to every family with a newborn infant in order to maximize population reach and community acceptance. The program goals are:

1. to connect with mothers or primary caregivers in order to support parenting skills and self-efficacy;
2. to assess each family's unique strengths and needs; and
3. to connect the family with needed community services, such as health care, child care, and financial and social support in order to promote family functioning and child well-being.

There were more than 16,000 babies born in Travis County last year. Research suggests that 95 percent of families have health needs within the first few weeks of being home. For many families, a single visit from a health professional can provide the support and access to resources that leads to significant positive outcomes. Families that could benefit from more intensive or long-term support are referred to other appropriate programs.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, Austin Public Health Department's need for continuing funding will be evaluated and may be denied.

Related Department Goals

Improve Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Outcomes.

Improve Quality of Life and Reduce the Years of Potential Life Lost Due to Preventable Chronic Diseases.