File #: 19-1743, Agenda Item #: 16.  

5/23/2019

Posting Language
Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 2 to the interlocal agreement with Austin Independent School District for the provision of resources connecting parents and families to family-centered and other social services, to increase funding in an amount not to exceed $290,000 for the 12-month period ending December 31, 2019 and each of the three remaining 12-month extension options, for a total agreement amount not to exceed $6,300,000.

Lead Department
Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note
Funding in the amount of $290,000 is included in the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Austin Public Health Department’s Operating Budget. Funding for extension options is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Prior Council Action:
On September 11, 2018, Council approved Ordinance No. 20180911-001 adopting the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Operating Budget including $290,000 additional ongoing funding for Austin Independent School District’s Parent Support Specialists Program on a vote of 10-1 with Council Member Troxclair voting no. On December 14, 2017, Council authorized negotiation and execution of this interlocal agreement with Austin Independent School District.

For More Information:
Stephanie Hayden, Director, 512-972-5010; Adrienne Sturrup, Assistant Director, Health Equity and Community Engagement Division, 972-5167, Vella Karman, Social Services Policy Manager, 512-972-5064; Lucy Thompson, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5045.

Additional Backup Information:
Approval of this item will authorize Austin Public Health to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 2 of the Parent Support Specialists interlocal agreement with Austin Independent School District (AISD). This amendment will allocate additional funding for expanded services to parents and families. During the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 budget adoption process, Council approved $290,000 in additional ongoing funding for the Parent Support Specialists program.

Amendment No. 1 exercised the first 12-month extension option, adding $1,000,000 and extended services for the term January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019.

During the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 budget adoption process, Council approved an allocation of $1,000,000 in ongoing funding plus an additional $140,000 in one-time funding for AISD’s Parent Support Specialists program.

The Parent Support Specialists program provides educational and skill-building services to parents and families of students enrolled in AISD schools. Services include facilitating and promoting parent education, conducting communications and multicultural outreach, and referring families to other social services and
behavioral health resources. Specialists primarily work with the families, guardians, and communities of their campus and neighborhoods. When necessary, Specialists will also work with students to connect them with family-centered services or to better serve their parent or guardian. Specialists work closely with campus child study teams, Family Resource Centers, social services specialists, City neighborhood centers, and other social workers to assist clients by providing comprehensive services, minimizing duplication, and covering gaps in services. This integrated service-model aims to improve the quality of life of all families served by the program. The purposes served by the program include providing life-skills education to parents, developing parent leaders, referring families to mental and behavioral health resources, and improving maternal, child, and adolescent health outcomes.