



Recommendation for Action

File #: 19-3568, **Agenda Item #:** 33.

12/5/2019

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 3 to an agreement with Youth and Family Alliance, dba LifeWorks, for the expansion of youth homeless services, increasing funding in an amount not to exceed \$160,000 for the current term and each of the three remaining 12-month extension options, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$1,405,625.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$160,000 is included in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget.

Prior Council Action:

September 10, 2019 - Council approved Ordinance No. 20190910-001 adopting the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Operating Budget, including \$160,000 in ongoing funding to be used as a required match for a federal youth homelessness grant, on a 10-1 vote with Council Member Flannigan voting no.

September 11, 2018 - Council approved Ordinance No. 20180911-001 adopting the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Operating Budget, including \$160,000 in one-time funding to be used as a required match for a federal youth demonstration grant, on a 10-1 vote with Council Member Troxclair voting no.

June 28, 2018 - Council approved a 15-month agreement with LifeWorks with up to four 12-month extension options for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$605,625 on an 11-0 vote.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

Approval of this item will authorize Austin Public Health to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 3 to the agreement with Youth and Family Alliance, dba LifeWorks, for the expanded provision of rapid rehousing services for homeless youth. In the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget, Council approved \$160,000 in ongoing funding to be used as a match for a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for their Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program. Austin/Travis County was one of ten communities selected out of 130 applicants for the grant of \$5.2M over two years. This program is eligible to continue in future years.

Amendment No. 2 exercised the first authorized extension option for the term October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020.

Amendment No. 1 expanded service provision and added one-time funding in the amount of \$160,000 to the

initial agreement term ending September 30, 2019.

On April 20, 2018, Austin Public Health issued a Request for Applications to establish one or more agreements with qualified nonprofits or governmental entities for the provision of rapid re-housing services for individuals and/or families experiencing homelessness. Through that process, LifeWorks was awarded an agreement to provide rapid re-housing services to youth ages 18 to 24 experiencing homelessness, for an initial 15-month term ending on September 30, 2019.

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. It is cost effective, has high rates of placement into permanent housing, and increases family self-sufficiency. The rapid re-housing service model aligns with proposed actions in the Action Plan to End Homelessness endorsed by Council on April 26, 2018. Rapid re-housing outcomes in the agreement with LifeWorks will contribute to multiple homeless metrics in Austin's Strategic Direction 2023, adopted by Council on March 8, 2018.