



## Recommendation for Action

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**File #:** 20-2197, **Agenda Item #:** 84.

5/21/2020

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### **Posting Language**

Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with Caritas of Austin to provide direct relief services to Austin/Travis County residents impacted by COVID-19 in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 for the term May 26, 2020 to September 30, 2020.

### **Lead Department**

Austin Public Health.

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$1,000,000 is included in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund for Relief in a State of Emergency Fund to support COVID-19 emergency relief.

### **Prior Council Action:**

April 9, 2020 - Council approved Resolution No. 20200409-081 to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$15,000,000 for the Relief in a State of Emergency Fund to support COVID-19 emergency relief, with an 11-0 vote on the virtual dais.

### **For More Information:**

Stephanie Hayden, Director, 512-972-5010; Adrienne Sturup, Assistant Director, 512-972-5167; Akeshia Johnson Smothers, Interim Social Services Policy Unit Manager, 512-972-5567; Lucy Thompson, Agenda Coordinator, 512-972-5045.

### **Additional Backup Information:**

This action will authorize the negotiation and execution of an agreement with Caritas of Austin to provide direct relief services to Austin/Travis County residents impacted by COVID-19. The term for this agreement is May 26, 2020 through September 30, 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000, for a total agreement amount of \$1,000,000, with no extension options.

On April 9, 2020, City Council approved an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund (Ordinance No. 20190910-001) to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$15,000,000 for the Relief in a State of Emergency (RISE) Fund to support COVID-19 emergency relief. On the same day, City Council approved Resolution No. 20200409-081, which authorized the City Manager to negotiate and execute new emergency contracts funded from the RISE Fund to offer immediate support services and direct financial assistance to residents impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and economic crisis.

Caritas of Austin will use direct relief assistance to serve people of color, the LGBTQI+ community, immigrant communities, seniors, historically marginalized individuals, and survivors of domestic violence. They will provide the following direct relief assistance: food access, case management, behavioral health services, assistance with essential hygiene access, mortgage or rental assistance, assistance with utility bills, assistance with medical expenses, diapers and baby formula access, child care services, dependent caregiver services, moving and storage costs, and emergency housing assistance.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.