



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-2201, **Agenda Item #:** 88.

5/21/2020

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with Worker Assistance Program to provide direct financial assistance and direct relief services to Austin/Travis County residents impacted by COVID-19 in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 for the term May 26, 2020 to September 30, 2020.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$250,000 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 (RISE) Fund to support COVID-19 emergency relief, with an 11-0 vote on the virtual dais.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

This action will authorize the negotiation and execution of an agreement with Workers Assistance Program to provide direct financial assistance and 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 \$250,000, for a total agreement amount of \$250,000, 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.

Workers Assistance Program will use the direct financial assistance and direct relief assistance to serve people of color, the LGBTQI+ community, immigrant communities, historically marginalized individuals, and youth in the juvenile justice system. They will provide the following direct financial assistance and direct relief assistance: case management services, mortgage and/or rental assistance, assistance with utility bills, assistance with car payments, assistance with paying for medication/medical expenses, and assistance with food access.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.