



## Recommendation for Action

**File #:** 21-1992, **Agenda Item #:** 24.

6/10/2021

### **Posting Language**

Ratify an agreement with El Buen Samaritano to provide financial assistance to persons who have been impacted by COVID-19, in an amount not to exceed \$389,002, for a five-month term through September 30, 2021.

### **Lead Department**

Austin Public Health

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$343,284 is included in the COVID-19 Spending Framework (Resolution No. 20200604-040) as part of the Economic Support for Financial and Other Direct Support and \$45,718 is available in the FY 2020-21 General Fund Austin Public Health operating budget.

### **Prior Council Action:**

June 4, 2020 - Council approved Resolution No. 20200604-040 adopting the COVID-19 proposed spending framework for the use of all available federal and local funding that maximizes the benefit of federal COVID-19 relief funding and local funding, on an 11-0 vote.

May 7, 2020 - Council approved Resolution No. 20200507-059 directing the City Manager to plan and collaborate with outside entities, develop, fund, and implement programs, and report status updates to Council regarding efforts to prevent and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 among the residents and staff of nursing homes and other long-term care facilities, and other vulnerable persons, on an 11-0 vote.

April 9, 2020 - Council approved Ordinance No. 20200409-87 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 an 11-0 vote on the virtual dais. 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, on an 11-0 vote.

### **For More Information:**

Adrienne Sturup, Interim Director, 512-972-5167; Akeshia Johnson Smothers, Social Services Policy Manager, 512-972-5567; Ruth Dalrymple, Acting Agenda Coordinator, 512-972-5024.

### **Additional Backup Information:**

Approval of this item will authorize Austin Public Health to ratify an Agreement with El Buen Samaritano for the redistribution of financial assistance in the form of gift cards, to persons impacted by COVID-19 who had not fully expended their allocated RISE 2.0 funds.

This is a new contract, which is funded by RISE 2.0. In 2020, El Buen Samaritano was chosen from a competitive request for application process titled "RFQS #006 COVID -19 RISE 2.0 - 2020 - NPS" for the

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purpose of funding qualified social services providers with demonstrated experience in administering a Care Coordinated Call Center and assisting clients receive financial assistance.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Health and Environment and Economic Opportunity and Affordability.