



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-2844, **Agenda Item #:** 66.

9/30/2021

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 9 to an agreement with The SAFE Alliance to provide intervention services that will address domestic violence and abuse, to add one 12-month extension option beginning October 1, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$932,495, for a revised total agreement amount not to exceed \$6,080,717.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$932,495 is available in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget.

Prior Council Action:

December 5, 2019 - Council authorized negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 7 to expand early intervention services to address violence and abuse, and increase funding in an amount not to exceed \$130,000 for the current term and the one remaining 12-month term extension option, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$5,148,222, on an 11-0 vote.

March 28, 2019 - Council authorized negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 6 to expand early intervention services to address violence and abuse in an amount not to exceed \$130,000 in one-time funding, on a 6-0 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. 9 to the Victim Services agreement with The SAFE Alliance, previously named the Travis County Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Survival Center, d/b/a SafePlace for provision of early intervention services to address violence and abuse, to add one 12-month extension option.

Amendment No. 8 exercised the third extension option in the amount of \$932,495 for the program period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

Amendment No. 7 added \$130,000 to the agreement to expand provision of early intervention services to address violence and abuse, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$4,215,727.

Amendment No. 6 exercised the second extension option in the amount of \$802,495, and authorized one-time funding of \$130,000 for the program period of October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020, for a revised total agreement amount not to exceed \$4,085,727, to expand early intervention services to address violence and abuse.

Council added the following budget rider when adopting the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Operating Budget on Council Member Casar's motion that read: "Relationship Violence Prevention & Crisis Response: It is the intention of the City Council that the funding reprioritized by Council amendment for relationship violence crisis response and relationship violence prevention be a competitively-bid contract or expansion of an existing contract for the purposes of preventing relationship violence and ensuring immediate safety of victims of relationship violence."

Amendment No. 5 exercised the first extension option in the amount of \$802,495 for the program period of October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

Amendment No. 4 added \$19,573 to the 37-month base agreement, for a revised total agreement amount not to exceed \$2,350,737.

Amendment No. 3 added \$35,204 to the 37-month base agreement, for a revised total agreement amount not to exceed \$2,331,164.

Amendment No. 2 changed the vendor name.

Amendment No. 1 added \$129,960 to the 37-month base agreement, for a revised total agreement amount not to exceed \$2,295,960.

This social services agreement with The SAFE Alliance was originally awarded through the 2014 Health and Human Services Department Self-Sufficiency Request for Applications (also known as RFA), with services beginning on September 1, 2015 for an initial 37-month period in the amount of \$2,166,000, with three 12-month extension options in the amount of \$722,000 per extension option.

The mission of The SAFE Alliance is to end sexual and domestic violence through safety, healing, prevention and social change. The goals of the program are to provide safety and healing services to people in Austin and Travis County who have experienced rape, sexual abuse, and/or domestic violence. This program aims to meet victims' immediate needs for safety, help them heal from the trauma they have experienced, and support their efforts to build healthy, self-sufficient lives free of violence.

The Victim Services program serves women, children and men who have experienced rape, sexual abuse and/or domestic violence. Clients served are any age and are primarily from Austin and Travis County. Clients include members of traditionally underserved populations, which include low-income persons, people with disabilities, persons who have been homeless, and people of color. Priority for emergency shelter is given to people who are at higher levels of danger as staff assess safety and risk.

Counseling services are prioritized for those seeking individual and family counseling based on level of danger (high level of lethality), trauma symptoms that impact work, school or care for children, and recent sexual assault/abuse survivors who are children/youth. Most individuals are given the option of immediately joining a support group.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment.