



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 27

Agenda Date: November 21, 2024

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Health Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Claude Jacob

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Agreements awarded for Reproductive Justice Fund – Reproductive Health Care

SUMMARY:

This ordinance authorizes the execution of the following agreements for services to promote community capacity-building, healthcare navigation, and reproductive and sexual healthcare:

- Empower House SA - \$163,829.24
- Latched Support Inc. - \$99,350.00
- San Antonio AIDS Foundation - \$180,000.00; and
- Young Women’s Christian Association of San Antonio - \$56,000.00

The City of San Antonio Metropolitan Health District’s (Metro Health) Access to Care section will execute the agreements for a cumulative amount up to \$499,179.24 for terms beginning upon approval through November 30, 2025. Funding is available from the General Fund.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In September 2023, the San Antonio City Council voted to allocate \$500,000.00 for a Reproductive Justice initiative. “Reproductive Justice” is a term coined by the National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda and encompasses the right to have children, the right to not have children and the right to nurture children in a safe and healthy environment.

Metro Health sought proposals from respondents addressing upstream, midstream and downstream causes of the following reproductive health gaps in San Antonio:

- Access to Contraception: One (1) in two (2) U.S. residents at less than 250% of Federal Poverty Level cannot access their contraceptive method of choice (Healthy People 2030, 2015 data).
- Access to Prenatal Care: One (1) in four (4) pregnancies in Bexar County began prenatal care after the first trimester (Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, 2022 data).
- Screening and Care for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs): One (1) in five (5) U.S. residents on any given day has an STI (Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, 2018 data).
- Access to Abortion: One (1) in eight (8) U.S. pregnancies ended in abortion before Dobbs decision (Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, 2019 data). Texas reported 52,495 abortions in 2021, compared to 52 from January to October 2023 (Texas Department of State Health Services).

The City issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for “Reproductive Justice Fund – Reproductive Health Care” (RFP 24-121, 6100018116) on June 24, 2024, with a submission deadline of August 2, 2024. The RFP was advertised in the San Antonio Express-News, TVSA channel, the City’s Bidding & Contracting Opportunities website, the San Antonio e-Procurement System (SAePS) and an email notification was released to a list of potential respondents. A total of ten proposals were received and all ten proposals were deemed eligible for review.

The evaluation committee consisted of representatives from Metro Health, United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County and Pay It Forward SA. The Finance Department, Procurement Division assisted by ensuring compliance with City procurement policies and procedures. The evaluation of each proposal was based on a total of 100 points: 20 points were allotted for experience, background and qualifications; 30 points were allotted for proposed plan; 15 points were allotted for funding and budget narrative; 10 points were allotted for non-profit status; 5 points were allotted for the Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Prime Contract Program; 5 points were allotted for the Minority/Women-Owned Business Enterprise Prime Contract Program; 10 points were allotted for the Local Preference Program; and 5 points were allotted for the Veteran-Owned Small Business Preference Program. Additional categories of consideration included references and financial qualifications.

The evaluation committee met for an initial evaluation to discuss and score the ten responsive proposals on September 3, 2024, and after initial scoring, the committee’s recommendation was to conduct interviews with the top five highest-ranked firms. The evaluation committee reconvened for interviews and discussion on September 17, 2024. After interviews, the evaluation committee discussed and scored the shortlisted firms based on the aforementioned criteria. Individual scores were submitted, and aggregate scores were presented. After a recommendation for award was agreed upon by the evaluation committee, final scores, inclusive of preference programs, were revealed. Empower House SA, Latched Support, Inc, San Antonio AIDS Foundation and Young Women’s Christian Association of San Antonio, the highest-ranking firms, were recommended for award by the evaluation committee.

City Council was presented with a pre-solicitation briefing at B Session on June 18, 2024 prior to

the solicitation being released. In addition, a post-solicitation briefing was presented to City Council at B Session on October 16, 2024 with staff's recommendation for Council award.

The term of the contracts will begin upon execution through November 30, 2025, with no renewal options. Funding is available from the General Fund.

ISSUE:

These contracts will provide services for sexual and reproductive health educational workshops, evidence-based sexual education in high schools, Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) testing, contraception (prescribed and over the counter) and wraparound prenatal care services including doula, midwifery, acupuncture and mental health services. The combined estimated contract value for services outlined in the scope of the RFP is \$499,179.24 for the contract term.

This contract will be awarded in compliance with the Small Business Economic Development Advocacy (SBEDA) Program, which requires contracts be reviewed by a Goal Setting Committee to establish a requirement and/or incentive unique to the particular contract in an effort to maximize the amount of small, minority, and women-owned business participation on the contract. The Goal Setting Committee applied the Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Prime Contract Program with five (5) evaluation preference points, and the Minority/ Women-Owned Small Business Enterprise (M/WBE) Prime Contract Program with five (5) evaluation preference points. None of the awarded firms were eligible to receive any preference points.

The Local Preference Program applied to this contract and three of the four recommended firms are local businesses.

The Veteran-Owned Small Business Preference Program applied to this contract; however, none of the recommended firms are veteran-owned small businesses.

ALTERNATIVES:

Should City Council choose not to approve this ordinance, Metro Health will need to re-solicit for reproductive justice services which will delay access to care for the community.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This ordinance authorizes the execution of the following agreements for services to promote community capacity-building, healthcare navigation, and reproductive and sexual healthcare:

- Empower House SA - \$163,829.24
- Latched Support Inc. - \$99,350.00
- San Antonio AIDS Foundation - \$180,000.00; and
- Young Women's Christian Association of San Antonio - \$56,000.00

The City of San Antonio Metropolitan Health District's (Metro Health) Access to Care section will execute the agreements for a cumulative amount up to \$499,179.24 for terms beginning upon approval through November 30, 2025. Funding is available from the General Fund.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

This contract is procured by means of Request for Proposals and Contracts Disclosure Forms are required.