



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 19

Agenda Date: February 20, 2025

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Health Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Claude Jacob

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

An agreement with the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio to fund costs related to the provision of specialty dental services for uninsured pediatric patients.

SUMMARY:

This ordinance authorizes the execution of an agreement with the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UT Health) to fund costs related to the provision of specialty dental services for uninsured pediatric patients in an amount up to \$150,000.00 for the term beginning January 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025, with the option to renew for one, one-year term for a total contract amount up to \$300,000.00, inclusive of renewals. Funding is available from the General Fund FY 2025 Adopted Budget. Funding for the subsequent year is contingent upon City Council approval of the annual budget and funds.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The UT Health Ricardo Salinas Pediatric Dentistry Clinic (Clinic) is a not-for-profit dental clinic serving a primarily Hispanic population of underserved, uninsured, and underinsured children. The dental clinic is the only clinic in San Antonio that provides specialty dental care on a sliding fee schedule according to family income.

Over the past 10 years, the Clinic has provided much needed oral healthcare to uninsured and underserved children from Bexar County, the majority from City Council Districts 1, 4, 5, 6, and 7. The specialty and comprehensive dental care services provided include preventive dentistry, emergency care, and restorative dental care. Most children that come to the Clinic do not have the resources to go to a private practicing pediatric dentist.

In August 2024, the City received a letter from UT Health requesting funding for the Clinic to offset the operating costs of providing specialty dental services to uninsured and underinsured pediatric patients who cannot afford to receive specialty dental care through other means. During the budget amendment process, City Council agreed to provide funding for the UT Health Ricardo Salinas Pediatric Clinic.

ISSUE:

Metro Health requests City Council authorize the execution of an agreement with UT Health to fund costs related to the provision of specialty dental services to uninsured pediatric patients in an amount up to \$150,000.00 for the term beginning January 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025, with the option to renew for one, one-year term for a total contract amount up to \$300,000.00, inclusive of renewals. Funding is available from the General Fund FY 2025 Adopted Budget. Funding for the subsequent year is contingent upon City Council approval of the annual budget and funds.

ALTERNATIVES:

Should City Council choose not to approve this ordinance, the agreement with UT Health to fund costs associated with the provision of specialty dental services for uninsured and underinsured children in San Antonio will not move forward. This may negatively impact this population's access to comprehensive dental care, including preventive dentistry, emergency, and restorative dental care.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This ordinance authorizes the execution of an agreement with the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio to fund costs related to the provision of specialty dental services for uninsured pediatric patients for an amount up to \$150,000.00 for the term beginning January 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025, with the option to renew for one, one-year term for a total contract amount up to \$300,000.00, inclusive of renewals. Funding is available from the General Fund FY 2025 Adopted Budget. Funding for the subsequent year is contingent upon City Council approval of the annual budget and funds.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval.

