



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**  
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**Agenda Item Number:** 2

**Agenda Date:** January 14, 2025

**In Control:** Audit Committee

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**DEPARTMENT:** Office of the City Auditor

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Baltazar Vargas

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

Acceptance of the Office of the City Auditor Report AU24-017 Audit of SAMHD SA Kids BREATHE Program

**SUMMARY:**

Determine if SA Kids B.R.E.A.T.H.E program is adequately managed and in compliance with policies and grant requirements.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Background

The SA Kids B.R.E.A.T.H.E. (SAKB) program was created through partnership with the South Texas Asthma Coalition to help curb negative outcomes associated with childhood asthma. B.R.E.A.T.H.E (Building Relationships, Effective Asthma Teaching in Home Environments), was

developed in 2018 with the goal of improving the quality of lives of children with asthma by teaching them and their family best practices for asthma control. Desired outcomes include a reduction in hospital visits, an increase in school participation, a reduction in lost work for parents due to asthma concerns, and saving families and the healthcare system money.

These outcomes are achieved through working directly with children and families to provide Asthma Self-Management Education (AS-ME). Community Health Workers (CHWs) meet with program participants, ages 3 – 17, and their families several times during the 12-month program to provide education, resources, and advocacy. Services may include how to use asthma devices, developing an asthma action plan, reviewing for allergens or triggers in the home, and referrals to community resources. Visits may also include program promotion with the participants health care provider, school, or day care. Participants can be referred to the program by anyone including self-referral, school nurses, health care providers, hospitals, and managed care organizations.

The SA Kids B.R.E.A.T.H.E. program is funded through a combination of general funding and a pass-through grant from the US Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) through the Texas Department of State Health Services EXHALE Program

#### Scope & Methodology

The audit scope was primarily the SAKB Program from September 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024, with some limited review going back to FY 2019. The scope included program management, measurement of outcomes, fiscal controls, and data accuracy and security.

#### Conclusion

The SAKB program is adequately managed and in compliance with policies and grant requirements. Staff receive adequate training to effectively provide services. Services are provided per program guidelines. Additionally, SAKB staff meet requirements of the EXHALE grant and funds are utilized appropriately. SAKB staff adequately market services to areas where interventions are most needed. Finally, performance measures exist and are adequately supported.

We make no recommendations to San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (SAMHD); consequently, no management responses are required.

#### **ISSUE:**

This item is presented for acceptance by the Audit Committee.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

N/A

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of this audit report.