

**THIS IS A DRAFT AND WILL BE REPLACED BY THE FINAL, SIGNED ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL.**

**ORDINANCE**

**AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH BEXAR COUNTY FOR HARM REDUCTION SERVICES AS PART OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT'S SA FORWARD PLAN TO IMPROVE MENTAL HEALTH AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000.0 FOR THE TERM BEGINNING UPON EXECUTION THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2025.**

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**WHEREAS**, Bexar County and the City of San Antonio both receive opioid settlement funds, passed through from the State of Texas, for participation in settlement agreements with companies for their role in the opioid crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, the funds will be received over an 18-year span; and

**WHEREAS**, the City and Bexar County are using opioid settlement funds collaboratively to reduce rising rates of overdoses in the community; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 9, 2024, through Ordinance 2024-05-09-0341, City Council authorized the appropriation of Opioid Settlement Funds in an amount up to \$909,000.00 for use by the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health) for substance use and harm reduction initiatives; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 30 years of research provides evidence showing comprehensive syringe services programs are safe, effective, and cost saving, do not increase illegal drug use or crime, and play an important role in reducing the transmission of viral hepatitis, HIV and other infection; and

**WHEREAS**, the Texas Government Code, § 526.0056, permits Bexar County to fund a syringe services pilot program to prevent the spread of HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and other infectious and communicable diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, the program may include a disease control program that provides for the anonymous exchange of used hypodermic needles and syringes; and

**WHEREAS**, through the proposed agreement, Bexar County will administer harm reduction contracts with local agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, the County will achieve deliverables through monitoring of contracted partners and deliverables include reducing overdoses, increasing access to harm reduction services and

resources, and enhancing community awareness about opioids and harm reduction practices; and

**WHEREAS**, additionally, the County will match funds provided by the City to implement these effective harm reduction strategies; **NOW THEREFORE:**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:**

**SECTION 1.** The City Manager or designee, or the Director of the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District or designee, is authorized to execute an agreement with Bexar County for harm reduction services, as part of the City of San Antonio Metropolitan Health District's SA Forward Plan to improve mental health and community resilience in the amount of \$100,000.00 for the term beginning upon execution through September 30, 2025. A copy of the agreement is attached hereto and incorporated herein for all purposes as **Attachment I**.

**SECTION 2.** The City Manager or designee, or the Director of the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District or designee, is further authorized to execute an amendment in the following circumstances: (A) an increase in contract funding in an amount not exceeding (a) twenty-five percent (25%) of the total amount of this contract or (b) \$25,000.00, whichever is lesser amount; provided, however, that the cumulative total of all amendments increasing funding and executed without City Council approval pursuant to this subsection during the term of this contract shall not exceed the foregoing amount; (B) no cost extensions up to two years; (C) budget adjustments authorized by the funding agency so long as the total dollar amount of the budget remains unchanged; (D) modifications to the Scope of Work due to the adjustment described in subsection (A) of this Section or for any other reason, so long as the terms of the amendment are reasonably within the parameters set forth in the original Scope of Work; and (E) changes in state or federal regulations mandated by the funding agency.

**SECTION 3.** Funds received for this ordinance will be deposited in Fund 29671000, Internal Order 836000000228 and General Ledger Account 5202020.

**SECTION 4.** The final allocations in this Ordinance are subject to approval by the Deputy Chief Financial Officer, City of San Antonio. The Deputy Chief Financial Officer may, subject to concurrence by the City Manager or the City Manager's designee, correct allocations to specific Cost Centers, WBS Elements, Internal Orders, General Ledger Accounts, and Fund Numbers as necessary to carry out the purpose of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 5.** This Ordinance is effective immediately upon the receipt of eight affirmative votes; otherwise, it is effective ten days after passage.

**PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 17th day of April 2025.**

**M A Y O R**

Ron Nirenberg

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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Debbie Racca-Sittre, City Clerk

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Andrew Segovia, City Attorney

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