



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 18

Agenda Date: June 13, 2024

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Department of Human Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Melody Woosley

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) - 2025 Homeless Housing and Services Program (HHSP) Grant

SUMMARY:

This ordinance authorizes budgetary and grant related actions regarding funds provided by the TDHCA to address homelessness, including:

- a) The acceptance, upon award, of youth set-aside grant funds from the TDHCA – HHSP in the amount of \$250,503.00 and authorizing a personnel complement of one position beginning September 1, 2024 and ending August 31, 2025; this includes proposed budgeted allocations to homeless services of \$86,741.00 and the funding of a renewal period for the contract with THRU Project for \$163,762.00.
- b) The designation of Haven for Hope of Bexar County, Inc. as the eligible subrecipient on behalf of the City of San Antonio to apply, and accept upon award, general set-aside funds from the TDHCA – HHSP in an estimated amount of \$839,059.00 for each year of a two-year period beginning September 1, 2024 and ending August 31, 2026.
- c) The approval for the Director of the Department of Human Services (DHS) to execute necessary

documents including grant contracts and amendments; carryover funds; line-item budget revisions; and the acceptance of additional grant funds if awarded, in an amount up to 20% of the total amount listed above.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Established in 2009, the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) Homeless Housing and Services Program (HHSP) grant funds services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness throughout the State of Texas. Funding is appropriated by the State of Texas and is allocated by formula to the nine largest Texas cities: Arlington, Austin, Corpus Christi, Dallas, El Paso, Fort Worth, Houston, Plano, and San Antonio. HHSP consists of a general allocation to any eligible population and an additional youth set-aside component specific to support youth 18-24 years of age.

Allowable activities include construction, development, or procurement of housing for homeless persons; rehabilitation of structures targeted to serving homeless persons or persons at-risk of homelessness; provision of direct services and case management to homeless persons or persons at-risk of homelessness; or other homelessness-related activity, as approved.

TDHCA – HHSP Youth Set-Aside

Since 2019, when the youth set-aside designation was created, the City of San Antonio has been a subrecipient of HHSP youth set-aside funds. Funds allocated to San Antonio have supported programs serving more than 300 homeless youth and young adults. Programs and services have previously included case management, street outreach, transitional housing, hotel vouchers, rental assistance, medical and behavioral health support, and educational support.

TDHCA – HHSP Haven for Hope Designation

Since November 2009, the City of San Antonio has designated Haven for Hope of Bexar County, Inc. as a subrecipient of general set-aside funds from the TDHCA – HHSP. Program rules require governing body reauthorization every two years for designation of these funds. The previous designation to Haven for Hope was approved by City Council in September 2022 and was set for a two-year period beginning September 1, 2022 and ending August 31, 2024.

Since inception of the HHSP grant, Haven for Hope has utilized funding to support case management and capital improvements to the campus including, but not limited to, the installation of ADA-accessible ramps, canopies, security lighting, automatic gates, security cameras, water fountains, bathrooms, showers and laundry facilities.

ISSUE:

In anticipation of HHSP youth-set aside funds for FY 2025, the Department of Human Services (DHS) recommends utilizing the HHSP youth set-aside funds in the amount of \$250,503.00 to continue Delegate Agency funding to the THRU Project's Educational Housing Program and to support the DHS Homeless Services Division's Youth Case Manager position in the Homeless

Connections Hotline. The Youth Case Manager assists youth and young adults (ages 18-24) seeking homeless assistance. Since its creation in FY 2023, the Youth Case Manager position has assisted 214 young adults with case navigation.

This ordinance further authorizes the continuation of this designation for a two-year period beginning September 1, 2024 and ending August 31, 2026. The designation will authorize Haven for Hope to directly contract with TDHCA to administer HHSP funds in an estimated amount of \$839,059.00 each year for two years.

ALTERNATIVES:

If City Council does not approve the acceptance of the TDHCA funds, the funds would be returned to the State of Texas for use in other large metropolitan cities.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of funds upon award of TDHCA – HHSP youth set-aside funding in the amount of \$250,503.00 and authorizes a budget and personnel complement of one position from September 1, 2024 through August 31, 2025.

This ordinance also authorizes the designation of Haven for Hope of Bexar County, Inc. as an eligible subrecipient of general set-aside funding in the amount of \$839,059.00 annually for a two-year period of September 1, 2024 through August 31, 2026.

There is no fiscal impact to the City's General Fund in the form of a cash match.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval.