



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 27

Agenda Date: November 2, 2023

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Health Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Claude Jacob

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Approving an agreement with Syra Health Corporation for Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) grant evaluation services.

SUMMARY:

This ordinance authorizes the execution of an agreement with Syra Health Corporation for evaluation services related to the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District's (Metro Health) Healthy Neighborhoods program in an amount up to \$55,000.00, for a term ending September 29, 2024, with the option to renew for four, one-year terms for a total amount up to \$275,000.00, inclusive of renewals. Funding is available from the CDC Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) grant. Future funding is contingent upon availability of grant funds.

This ordinance also authorizes the City Manager or designee 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.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Healthy Neighborhoods program began in 2012 as an innovative place-based childhood obesity prevention project utilizing Community Health Workers (CHWs) and the Asset Based Community Development framework. CHWs serve as health educators, connectors, and community organizers who empower residents to become active voices of the community.

In 2018, the Healthy Neighborhoods program was awarded the REACH grant to improve health, prevent chronic diseases and reduce health disparities among certain racial and ethnic populations. Since then, the Healthy Neighborhoods program has built on its strengths, expanded the geographic scope of the program's vision, and incorporated policy, systems, and environmental level interventions to improve community health.

In September 2023, the Healthy Neighborhoods program was awarded the REACH grant for a second, five-year funding period. Through this new round of funding, the Healthy Neighborhoods program will collaborate with Metro Health's Office of Health Equity, and Policy and Civic Engagement (PaCE) Office to expand current place-based public health strategies related to nutrition, physical activity, early care and education, and adult vaccinations to organize for community change and focus on addressing health disparities in priority populations.

The Finance Department on behalf of Metro Health released a Request for Proposals (RFP) on June 28, 2023, to select a vendor to provide consultation services to support a program evaluation on Metro Health efforts for improving health, preventing chronic diseases and reducing health disparities among certain racial and ethnic populations. The RFP closed on August 4, 2023. The RFP was advertised in the Hart Beat, TVSA channel, the City's Bidding & Contracting Opportunities website, the San Antonio eProcurement System (SAePS), and an email notification was released to a list of potential Respondents. A total of two (2) proposals were received in response to the RFP. Both were deemed eligible for review. On August 15, 2023, the proposals were reviewed by the evaluation committee which included representatives from Metro Health. At the initial evaluation meeting, the committee recommended interview with the top ranked respondent. Interview and final evaluation was completed on August 31, 2023. The proposals were evaluated on Experience, Background, and Qualifications, Proposed Plan, Price, the Local Preference Program and the Veteran-Owned Small Business Preference Program. After committee review and evaluation, Syra Health Corporation was recommended for award by the evaluation committee.

To meet grant requirements, Syra Health Corporation will provide consultation services to support a program evaluation on Metro Health's efforts in improving health, preventing chronic diseases and reducing health disparities among certain racial and ethnic populations.

ISSUE:

Metro Health requests City Council authorize the execution of an agreement with Syra Health Corporation for evaluation services in an amount up to \$55,000.00 for a term ending September 29, 2024, with the option to renew for four, one-year terms, and a total amount up to \$275,000.00, inclusive of renewals. Funding for the agreement is from the CDC REACH grant.

This contract is within the scope of the Small Business Economic Development Advocacy (SBEDA) Program. However, due to lack of available firms and/or subcontracting opportunities, the Goal Setting Committee was unable to apply a SBEDA tool to this contract.

The Local Preference Program was applied in the evaluation of the two responses received for the contract. However, the recommended firm is not a local business.

The Veteran-Owned Small Business Preference Program was applied in the evaluation of the two responses received for the contract; however, the recommended firm is not a veteran-owned small business.

ALTERNATIVES:

Should City Council choose not to approve this ordinance, Metro Health will need to seek an alternate means to meet REACH grant deliverables. Failing to meet grant deliverables will further delay the grant's impact to the community in improving health, preventing chronic diseases, and reducing health disparities among racial and ethnic populations in San Antonio.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This ordinance authorizes the execution of an agreement with Syra Health Corporation for evaluation services in an amount up to \$55,000.00 for a term beginning September 30, 2023 and ending September 29, 2024, with the option to renew for four, one-year terms, for a total amount up to \$275,000.00, inclusive of renewals.

Funding is available from the CDC REACH grant. Future funding is contingent upon availability of grant funds. There is no impact to the General Fund in the form of a cash-match.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval.

This contract was procured by means of Request for Proposals and a Contracts Disclosure Form is attached.