



ARPA Spending Framework Investments for Youth

Background

On March 11, 2021, Congress signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), which included resources to support local government's response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The City of San Antonio was awarded \$326.9 million in State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. As part of the FY 2022 Budget process, the City Council approved \$97.5 million to support the City budget and address community needs. On November 18, 2021, the City Council approved an additional \$30.0 million for utility assistance. The remaining \$199.4 million remained unallocated and was intended to be awarded following a community engagement process that began in the fall of 2021.

On January 26, 2022, following a community engagement process, staff presented a recommended spending framework reflecting community and City Council input. The final spending framework of \$199.4 million was approved by the City Council on February 3, 2022. The approved spending framework included \$87.8 million recommended for programmatic funding—\$10 million to be used to support youth in their recovery from the negative impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Department of Human Services (DHS) will manage the \$10 million investment for youth through a competitive process. Support for youth will focus investments to address COVID-19 impacts related to: (1) gang involvement; (2) youth who are aging out of the foster care system; (3) homeless youth and "opportunity youth"; and (4) enrichment activities to support school readiness. This document outlines the implementation plan for these investments. In addition, the San Antonio Youth Commission, which is overseen by DHS, will be allocated \$100,000 to support their ongoing work on behalf of San Antonio youth.

Eligibility

Eligible Organizations

- Nonprofit organizations (501 (c) 3)
- Faith-Based organizations
- Public entities (including non-COSA government agencies)

Additional Information on Eligibility

- Must have been in existence and operating programs serving the population identified in the submitted proposal in San Antonio for a minimum of two years
- Must demonstrate agency and/or participants served have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19

Program Funding and Anticipated Awards: \$10 Million

DHS is proposing to award Youth Services investments through a combined competitive process that includes investments for: Youth (\$10 million), Nonprofit and Social Services (\$2.5 Million out of \$4 Million), and Seniors (\$5 Million).

All funds will be first approved by their respective City Council committees and then taken to the City Council for consideration and approval.

Stakeholder Engagement

DHS held four stakeholder feedback sessions in May 2022 attended by 42 youth-serving organizations and key partners. In addition to these meetings, DHS met with over 30 youth from seven youth organizations and focus groups with 22 youth who had aged out of the foster care system.

The purpose of these sessions was to share community and City Council input, gather suggestions on proposed funding priorities and goals, and finalize performance indicators.

Participating Stakeholders:

Alamo Colleges District	Empower House	San Antonio Chamber of
Bexar County	Family Services Association	Commerce
Bexar County Fostering for	Former Foster Youth	San Antonio Education
Educational Success	Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas	Partnership
Boys and Girls Club	GIRLS INC.	San Antonio Clubhouse
Boy Scouts of America, Alamo	Good Samaritan	San Antonio Youth Commission
Area Council	Goodwill Industries	SARAH Youth Action Board
CASA	Guadalupe Community Center	SAY SI
Catholic Charities	HBBSA	The University of Texas at San
Childrens Shelter	Healy Murphy Center	Antonio
ChildSAFE	Joven	THRIVE
City Life San Antonio	Leaven Kids	Thru Project
Communities in Schools-San	NEISD Kid's Involvement	United Way
Antonio	Network	UP Partnership
CRIT Teleton	Northside ISD	Workforce Solutions Alamo
Texas Department of Family	Pride Center San Antonio	YWCA
and Protective Services	SA Sports	Youth from Faith-Based
DoinWell	SA Youth	Organizations
DoSeum	SA Youth for Christ	
ESC-20	SAMSAT	

In addition to community stakeholder meetings and conversations, DHS is working with UP Partnership and Excel Beyond the Bell, which is a collaborative of out-of-school organizations to increase understanding of local investments and shared community goals for youth.

This alignment and coordination will continue beyond release of the competitive process and funding awards to foster innovative practices, collaborate on services, identify best practices, and reduce duplication. This coordination will also ensure development of uniform guidance on how to better support students with disabilities.

Funding Priority Investments

COVID-19 Impact	Programs/Strategies	Equitable Outcomes	Proposed Amount
Decrease in Youth Involvement	Set aside \$100,000 for the San Antonio Youth Commission to evaluate and develop funding recommendations to address youth needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Youth participating in civic processes % Impacted youth connected to resources and support 	\$100 K
Increase in Gang Activity	Fund gang prevention and intervention programs in areas with high gang activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Youth engaged through outreach activities % Engaged youth enrolling in prevention programs 	\$750 K
Decrease in Access to Supports for Foster Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand support and wrap around services for foster youth. Provide paid internship opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Foster youth engaged through outreach activities % Foster youth enrolling and receiving benefits and resources. % Engaged foster youth enrolling in college 	\$2.00 M
Increase in number of Opportunity Youth & Homeless Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand existing opportunity youth programs Provide supports to improve family stability Provide incentives for participation and retention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Opportunity youth connected to education and employment opportunities # Family members engaged to support youth goal attainment % Decrease in youth experiencing homelessness 	\$2.65 M
Decrease in School Readiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase access to low or no cost After School and Summer Programs Provide transportation supports to programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Youth engaged in outreach # Youth enrolled in after school and summer programs % Participating youth with 90% attendance % Participating youth transitioning to the next grade level 	\$4.50 M

Request for Proposal Timeline

DATE	ACTION ITEM
August 18, 2022	City Council A-Session Briefing
August 19, 2022	Request for Proposal Opens
August 29 – September 2, 2022	Pre-Submittal Conference and Training and Technical Assistance Workshops
September 21, 2022	Request for Proposal Closes
September 22-October 6, 2022	Evaluation & Scoring
October 2022	City Council A Session – Approval of Awards
November 2022	Contracts Begin

No Contact Period

In accordance with §2-61 of the City Code, interested applicants are prohibited from communication regarding the Youth Services RFP with City Officials and Employees during specific portions of the competitive process. The Department of Human Services, in line with prior competitive RFPs issued is recommending an abbreviated no contact period for City Officials as reflected below.

- **City Officials:** September 21, 2022 until the date the City Manager posts proposed awards for City Council consideration.
- **City Employees:** August 19, 2022 until the date proposed awards are approved by City Council.

Scoring Criteria

- **Experience Background and Qualifications: 30 Points**
 - Agency experience
 - Financial management
 - History providing youth services for targeted youth population
- **Proposed Plan: 40 Points**
 - Demonstrate disproportionate COVID – 19 impacts to youth and/or organization
 - Alignment with proposed program strategies, outcomes, and performance indicators
 - Identify how support to youth assists them long-term
 - Youth engagement in development of plan
 - Collaboration with other agencies and innovative practices to support youth
- **Budget and Budget Narrative: 20 Points**
 - Prior receipt of federal COVID-19 funding assistance
 - Leveraged agency resources
 - Capacity building investments
 - Long-term sustainability