

**DEPARTMENT:** San Antonio Fire Department

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Charles N. Hood

**COUNCIL DISTRICT(S) IMPACTED:** City Wide

**SUBJECT:** FY 2024 STRAC MIH Acceptance of funds for Molina Healthcare of Texas, Inc Program.

**SUMMARY:**

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of funds from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC) up to the amount of \$590,000, approves a program budget and appropriates funds to be used by the Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) unit of the EMS division of the San Antonio Fire Department to work with Molina Healthcare of Texas, Inc. to reduce demand on local emergency departments and Molina Healthcare by improving outcomes and coordinating care of assigned patients. Funding is for the period of Oct 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council (STRAC) has created an MIH consortium for municipalities engaged in programs and can act as a clearing house for HIPPA compliant information as well as a central hub for grants for participating jurisdictions within the consortium.

Molina Healthcare of Texas, Inc. is a managed healthcare organization that is responsible for the medical care to several residents in the city of San Antonio. STRAC has received funding from Molina Healthcare to create a pilot program within the SAFD MIH program to responsibly help improve the health, comfort, and well-being of the enrolled Members.

Emergency Department overcrowding is a difficult and major healthcare issue in San Antonio and across the nation. This pilot program will focus on this issue by utilizing proven MIH skills and programs to assist patients in getting the treatment and care they need without utilizing EMS units and hospital emergency departments. The program leverages existing infrastructure and a newly developed notification system to alert MIH personnel when enrolled Molina Healthcare members request EMS via 911. The goal of the program is to improve situational awareness and allow MIH Personnel and Molina Healthcare staff to develop a comprehensive healthcare plan for the enrolled patient quickly and efficiently. This healthcare plan could include providing skilled patient care in the home setting, educating the patient, family, and caregivers on the healthcare system, and coordinating with the Member's assigned primary care physicians in an effort to reduce admission to Emergency Departments throughout the city.

The SAFD MIH Division, through STRAC and the MIH consortium would provide contract services to Molina Healthcare. Funds received through this program are paid on a monthly, per patient, per visit basis based on the geographical location of the patient. Through the MIH consortium, only the legal authority having jurisdiction, or their designee, may provide these services under this Agreement.

**ISSUE:**

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of up to \$590,000 for a term of 1 year from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC) for service provided by SAFD MIH to Molina Healthcare of Texas Inc.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

If the City did not accept the donation funds, the current program with Molina Healthcare and the SAFD will cease to exist. Patients previously identified by Molina Healthcare will continue to burden the 911 system and hospital emergency departments.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of MIH funding up to \$590,000 to the Special Revenue Internal Order, 820000001087, from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC) to provide needed resources for this program.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance to accept the funding opportunity from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC).