

**DEPARTMENT:** San Antonio Fire Department

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Charles N. Hood

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

**SUBJECT:** FY 2024 STRAC MIH Annual Acceptance of funds for hospice

**SUMMARY:**

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of funds from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC) up to the amount of \$500,000. Funds will be used by the Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) unit of the EMS division of the San Antonio Fire Department for the following programs:

- A. Hospice \$500,000 (Oct. 1, 2023 – Sept. 30, 2024)

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC) was established to facilitate the development, implementation, and operation of a regional comprehensive trauma and emergency healthcare system based on accepted standards of care to decrease morbidity and mortality. Funds from STRAC are awarded to assist in improving the functionality of EMS agencies in the State of Texas. 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. STRAC has received funding from several hospice agencies to help improve the health, comfort, and well-being of hospice patients by providing skilled patient care in the home setting, educating the patient, family, and caregivers, coordinating with coordinating with the patient's hospice provider and reducing admission to emergency rooms throughout the city. MIH Personnel and hospice agency staff to respond quickly and efficiently to meet the needs of the patient based on their current care plan. These funds will be disbursed to the City of San Antonio based on patients enrolled within the geographical boundaries of the City of San Antonio.

**ISSUE:**

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of up to \$500,000 from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC) for work done by MIH with hospice companies.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

If the City does not accept these funds, offering the continued hospice program may need to be reconsidered by the San Antonio Fire Department. Additionally, the San Antonio Fire Department EMS division would lose efficiency and the opportunity for reimbursement.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of funding from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC) to the San Antonio Fire Department in the amount up to \$500,000 to the Special Revenue Internal Order, 820000001087, to be used by Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) unit of the EMS division of the San Antonio Fire Department.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

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