



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 35

Agenda Date: September 21, 2023

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Department of Human Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Melody Woosley

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT: Ordinance authorizing budgetary, grant, and associated contract-related actions for the City's FY 2024 Child Care Services Program.

SUMMARY:

This ordinance authorizes budgetary, grant, and associated contract-related actions for the City's FY 2024 Child Care Services (CCS) Program, including:

- a) acceptance, upon award of a grant from Workforce Solutions Alamo in the amount of \$121,777,977.00 for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024;
- b) a total program budget of \$125,464,848.00 including an in-kind match of up to \$3,686,371.00 and \$500.00 from program income, and a personnel complement of 66 positions; and
- c) approval for the Director of the Department of Human Services to execute any and all documents related to acceptance of this grant, to include acceptance of additional grant funds, if awarded, and in-kind funds as available in the City's budget, in amounts up to 20%.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

For over 30 years, the Department of Human Services (DHS) has managed the CCS program in Bexar and 12 rural counties comprising the Alamo Workforce Development Areas. The program provides subsidized childcare for families meeting income and other qualification requirements.

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) administers the State's subsidized childcare program through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Child Care Development Block Grant. TWC determines the allocation for childcare services based on federal appropriations, local needs, and contracts with Workforce Solutions Alamo (WSA), the local workforce development board, to implement the program. Through a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process, WSA awards contracts with local agencies to provide program services.

On April 30, 2021, WSA issued a Request for Proposals for the Child Care Services Program. DHS received approval to apply on May 13, 2021 and was awarded the grant with contract award extensions for up to three one-year periods DHS has again received a renewal extension for Fiscal Year 2024.

The CCS Program is currently serving 13,131 children with a waitlist for services of 4,552 families or 7,595 children.

ISSUE:

This ordinance authorizes acceptance of grant funds in the amount \$121,777,977.00 for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024; with a total program budget of \$125,464,848.00. The total budget includes program income of \$500.00 and up to \$3,686,371.00 of in-kind match funds from the City of San Antonio that is comprised of After School Challenge program, Youth Delegate Agencies, and PreK4SA which support early childhood and after school delegate agency contracts.

Awarded funding will provide operational costs including a personnel complement of 66 positions and direct childcare subsidy payments to 601 childcare vendors. Currently, CCS services are primarily provided to low-income families, parents enrolled in the WSA Workforce Choices Program (Choices) and those referred from the Texas Department of Family Protective Services, Child Protective Services (CPS) system. Additionally, children are enrolled in CCS for a minimum of 12 months to ensure continuity of care for vulnerable children.

This ordinance recommends the addition of four (4) grant-funded permanent positions to assist with prioritizing outreach and service delivery for the rural counties, as requested by the Workforce Solutions Alamo Board. In order to meet the requirements set by our grantor, WSA, staff specifically request two (2) Child Care Resource Specialists, one (1) Management Analyst, and one (1) Senior Management Analyst (SMA).

The SMA will oversee rural marketing and outreach, have oversight of rural children In care, and report numbers by county. The SMA will ensure rural counties will maintain allocated children in care as requested by the WSA board, track the rural waitlist for families and children needing care, submit contract amendments when necessary, track contract amendments, and maintain and update requested

rural reports. The SMA will have oversight of the management analyst and Child Care Resource Specialist staff that are also tasked with conducting rural county site visits, Assist families and potential customers with CCS related questions in rural counties, Travel between counties to meet on site staff requirements, and complete assigned CCS transactions while at site visits.

ALTERNATIVES:

Should authority to accept funding not be approved, WSA would award funding to another agency to provide childcare services to the Alamo Workforce Board Area. Such an action may delay the provision of services to the community and may negatively impact currently enrolled children and families.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of grant funds in the amount of \$121,777,977.00 for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024. Required program match includes up to \$3,686,371.00 of in-kind funds comprised of City of San Antonio funding and \$500.00 from program income. Contractual funding will be allocated from this award and the grant will also support a personnel complement of 66 City positions in the Department of Human Services.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance authorizing budgetary, grant and contract related items for the FY 2024 CCS Program. Continuation of program operations will ensure uninterrupted services to the community.