



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: {{item.number}}

Agenda Date: January 18, 2024

In Control: Public Safety Committee

DEPARTMENT: Police Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: William McManus, Chief of Police

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

U.S. Department of Justice Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program Grant

SUMMARY:

Briefing and possible action on the acceptance of the Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program Grant from the U.S. Department of Justice in the amount of \$397,684.00. There is no cash or in-kind match required.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Justice Assistance Grants were first awarded in 2005. Provisions of the grant require the City and Bexar County to submit a joint application. The grant funds are used to support a joint City/County project for addressing child sexual abuse/assault. The purpose of the project is to conduct joint investigations with the Bexar County Sheriff's Office, the District Attorney's Office, the Bexar County Housing and Human Services Department, the Texas Department of Family and Protective

Services, Christus Santa Rosa Children's Hospital, and ChildSafe.

The funds for the 2023 JAG grant will be used to continue supporting the joint City/County project called Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program as follows. The total joint grant amount for the City and Bexar County is \$994,211.00 (\$94,695.00 more than FY2022). Of this amount, \$596,527.00 is allocated to Bexar County and \$397,684.00 is allocated to the City. The grant period is October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2026.

The City's portion of the grant will be used to continue to fund two (2) Detective Investigator positions. These Detective Investigators will investigate sexual abuse/assault cases involving children. Tasked with the investigation of more than 28 different offenses, a large portion of the Special Victims Unit's caseload involves children as victims.

The County will utilize the FY2023 JAG grant to continue funding positions currently funded by the existing JAG programs that include problem solving courts, jail diversion, and victim advocacy. The majority of the funds will go to fund various positions (Adult & Juvenile Probation Officers, Prosecutors, Court Case Managers, etc.) in the Bexar County Drug Courts, the Bexar County District Attorney's Office, and the Juvenile and Adult Probation Offices.

Bexar County, acting as the Fiscal Agent for this grant, was responsible for submitting the grant application and all certifications, the administration of the funds, including distributing the funds, monitoring the award, submitting reports including performance measures and program assessment data.

ISSUE:

U.S. Department of Justice Grant to Support the Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program in an amount up to \$397,684.00 and authorizing a local agreement with Bexar County regarding the distribution of grant funds and the designation of Bexar County as the grant fiscal agent.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total joint grant amount for the City and Bexar County is \$994,211.00. Of this amount, \$596,527.00 is allocated to Bexar County and \$397,684.00 is allocated to the City. The grant period is October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2026.

There is no cash or in-kind match required.

ALTERNATIVES:

No alternatives.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Public Safety Committee forwards this grant acceptance to the full City Council for approval.