



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 19

Agenda Date: December 9, 2021

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Health Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Claude Jacob

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Ordinance approving an agreement with the University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler for the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District's Tuberculosis Prevention and Control Program for an amount of up to \$99,739.00 for a period ending July 31, 2022.

SUMMARY:

This Ordinance approves an agreement with the University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler (UTHSCT) for tuberculosis (TB) physician services related to the treatment of patients with Latent TB Infection (LTBI) as part of the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District's (Metro Health) participation in the Texas Department of State Health Services Tuberculosis Identification and Treatment Project (DSHS TB Project), a project of the Texas Medicaid 1115 Waiver for an amount not to exceed \$99,739.00 for a term beginning October 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022, with the option to renew for one, one-year term for a total amount of \$199,478.00 inclusive of the renewal.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Metro Health TB Clinic has relied on UTHSCT for physician services supporting the TB Clinic for the last seven years. During that time, physicians under previous agreements have provided full medical coverage for patients referred to the clinic for latent TB infection. This collaboration

was founded upon the fact that UTHSCT is one of only four Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) TB Centers of Excellence (TB COEs) for Training, Education, and Medical Consultation in the United States (only one in Texas) funded by the CDC's Division of TB Elimination to provide medical and technical consultation services related to various aspects of TB control. As such, UTHSCT is the only entity with this level of expertise available within the state.

On January 12, 2017 City Council first authorized the acceptance of funding from the Texas Department of State Health (DSHS) for Metro Health's participation in the Tuberculosis Identification and Treatment Project (TB Project) under the Texas Medicaid 1115 Waiver. This project continues to be implemented in partnership with DSHS Region 8, The Texas Center for Infectious Disease (TCID), UT Health and the UTHSCT.

The TB project focuses on targeted testing and treatment for LTBI in high-risk populations to prevent these infections from evolving into active TB cases. Persons at higher risk for contracting TB may include refugees and foreign-born individuals, persons living in congregate settings such as homeless shelters and drug rehabilitation centers, and individuals living with HIV and diabetes.

Most recently City Council authorized the acceptance of funding from DSHS for Metro Health's continued participation in the TB Project on January 14, 2021. The TB Project budget includes funding for an agreement with UTHSCT for physician services related to the treatment of patients with LTBI. This action requests City Council approve a new agreement with UTHSCT to allow for the continuation of TB physician services for high-risk individuals identified as having LTBI through increased targeted TB testing.

ISSUE:

Metro Health is requesting approval of an agreement with UTHSCT to provide TB physician services for the Tuberculosis Prevention and Control Program. TB infections continue to be a significant and expensive public health problem in Texas. An agreement with UTHSCT will increase targeted testing and treatment in high-risk populations for individuals with suspected LTBI.

ALTERNATIVES:

Should this agreement not be approved, Metro Health will not be able to meet DSHS requirements of the TB project which aims to increase targeted testing and treatment for LTBI in high-risk populations.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This ordinance authorizes an agreement with the University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler for a period beginning October 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022. Funding for this agreement is budgeted through the TB Medicaid Waiver fund for an amount not to exceed \$99,739.00. There is no impact to the General Fund.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the ordinance to execute an agreement with the University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler for TB physician services related to the treatment of patients with Latent TB Infection (LTBI) in an amount not to exceed \$99,739.00 for a period ending July 31, 2022, with the option to renew for one, one-year term for a total amount of \$199,478.00 inclusive of the renewals.