



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**

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**Agenda Item Number:** 28

**Agenda Date:** December 15, 2022

**In Control:** City Council A Session

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**DEPARTMENT:** Department of Human Services

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Melody Woosley

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

This Ordinance authorizes the request and acceptance of grant funds from the National Board Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) in an amount up to \$3,038,252.00 for FEMA expenses related to assistance provided to migrants traveling through San Antonio in coordination with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for the period of January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023. This ordinance authorizes the Director of Human Services to accept additional funding, if awarded, in an amount up to 20% of the total amount awarded.

**SUMMARY:**

This ordinance authorizes the request and acceptance of grant funds from the National Board Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) in an amount up to \$3,038,252 for EFSP projected costs from January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023 for expenses related to assistance provided to migrants traveling through San Antonio in coordination with the Department of Homeland Security.

The ordinance also authorizes additional necessary contracts and lease agreements for facilities, operations, and support services. Furthermore, this ordinance authorizes the Director of Human Services to accept additional funding, if awarded, in an amount up to 20% of the total amount awarded.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) was signed into law, providing \$110 million to the EFSP to help defray the costs that state and local service agencies (non-profit, faith-based, and governmental) incur in providing shelter, food, and support services to families and individuals encountered by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Providers may apply for 100% reimbursement of eligible local costs.

Since January 2021, the Department of Human Services and nonprofit partners, have served more than 300,000 migrants transiting through San Antonio in route to their final destination. Services provided include emergency shelter, food, transportation, and travel assistance as they navigate the immigration process.

On June 23, 2022. City Council authorized the City Manager to seek and accept reimbursement for costs in the amount up to \$12,723,902.00 for the period between January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022.

## **ISSUE:**

This ordinance authorizes the request and acceptance of grant funds from the National Board Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) in an amount up to \$3,038,252.00 for projected FEMA expenses related to assistance provided to migrants traveling through San Antonio in coordination with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for the period of January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023.

The ordinance also authorizes additional necessary contracts and lease agreements for facilities, operations, and support services. Furthermore, this ordinance authorizes the Director of Human Services to accept additional funding, if awarded, in an amount up to 20% of the total amount awarded.

## **ALTERNATIVES:**

There are currently no other grants available to cover the expenses associated with this program.

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

This ordinance authorizes the request and acceptance of grant funds from the National Board Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) in an amount up to \$3,038,252 for projected expenses related to assistance provided to migrants traveling through San Antonio in coordination with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for the period of January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023.

City Council previously authorized the City of San Antonio to accept reimbursement for costs for the period between January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022. Reimbursement for the period of January 2021 – June 2022 has been received in the amount of \$2,688,154. A total of \$5,767,356 was requested for the period of July 1 – September 2022. The request was submitted in November and is pending approval. The City will submit the reimbursement request for October – December 2022 in February 2023.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.