



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**

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**Agenda Item Number:** 24

**Agenda Date:** March 2, 2023

**In Control:** City Council A Session

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**DEPARTMENT:** Health Department

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Claude Jacob

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

Approving a Memorandum of Agreement for Metro Health’s Project Worth Teen Ambassador program.

**SUMMARY:**

An ordinance approving a Memorandum of Agreement with Northside Independent School District (NISD) to expand the current, community-based Project Worth Teen Ambassador program, to include campus-based programming, in an amount up to \$4,400.00, funded by the General Fund for a term ending June 30, 2024.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Metro Health’s Project Worth program has historically worked with teens in San Antonio to ensure youth perspective and voice are incorporated and shared with the community through Project Worth and City initiatives including various teen pregnancy prevention campaigns, the DreamSA Youth Engagement initiative, Tobacco 21 Ordinance, and teen dating violence prevention campaigns.

In 2013, Project Worth formally began the Project Worth Teen Ambassador program – a volunteer-based leadership development program that provides teens the opportunity to meet with peers from

across San Antonio, become civically engaged, and bring action to teen health by sharing their voices, creativity, and ideas. The Project Worth Teen Ambassadors work closely with Project Worth staff and their fellow Ambassadors on projects that are important to them. They also engage in learning opportunities that prepare them socially and emotionally to pursue their goals after high school. The program is rooted in positive youth development and utilizes strength-based approaches.

Through this agreement, Project Worth will expand the Teen Ambassador program to include a campus-based group of Teen Ambassadors at NISD's Earl Rudder Middle School, reducing barriers to participation in Project Worth's community-based Teen Ambassador group. The funding provided through this agreement will support responsibilities facilitated by a School Liaison, student transportation needs, and a project debrief related to the implementation of the Teen Ambassador program. In addition, Project Worth will begin implementation of a new evidence-based social-emotional development component to address adolescent mental health. Metro Health seeks to execute a Memorandum of Agreement NISD in an amount up to \$4,400.00 for a term beginning December 1, 2022, through June 30, 2024.

#### **ISSUE:**

Metro Health requests City Council approve an agreement with NISD to expand the current, community-based Project Worth Teen Ambassador program, to include campus-based programming. Approval of the agreement with NISD will allow Metro Health to oversee the successful implementation of the volunteer-based leadership development program on the school campus. The Project Worth Teen Ambassador program will provide necessary social emotional support and resources to enhance student wellbeing.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

Should the agreement not be approved, students will be limited in their ability to participate in the Project Worth Teen Ambassador program and will not have access to learning opportunities that prepare students socially and emotionally to pursue their goals after high school.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

This ordinance approves the execution of a Memorandum of Agreement with NISD for the expansion and implementation of Metro Health's Project Worth Teen Ambassador program in an amount up to \$4,400.00 for a term ending June 30, 2024. Funding for the agreement is budgeted and available in Metro Health's FY 2023 General Fund.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of an agreement with Northside Independent School District for the expansion and implementation of Metro Health's Project Worth campus-based Teen Ambassador program.

