



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 1

Agenda Date: May 3, 2023

In Control: City Council B Session

DEPARTMENT: Office of the City Manager

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Erik Walsh, City Manager

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Briefing on City-Wide Youth Programming

SUMMARY:

City staff will provide a briefing on city-wide youth programming offered by City departments.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The City of San Antonio is committed to offering various opportunities centered on youth development, promoting health and safety, and staying active during the summer months and year-round. The following youth programs will be discussed:

Parks and Recreation:

For nearly three decades, the Parks and Recreation Department has provided a recreation summer program for youth. The Summer Youth Program provides supervised, structured recreational activities to children ages six to fourteen years old. The program operates for approximately eight weeks each summer (dependent on local school district calendars) and this year has the capacity to serve approximately 3,900 children at 23 Parks' facilities and 13 partnering school sites.

The summer provides an opportunity for several aquatics-related activities for families to stay cool

and learn valuable skills. The Parks and Recreation Department will operate 24 outdoor swimming pools, with staggered openings beginning in May and staggered closings concluding in September.

San Antonio Libraries:

Beginning June 1, 2023, and running until the end of July, the San Antonio Public Library's "Summer at SAPL" offers a variety of free activities and events for the whole family at all library locations. The program is designed to spark new interests and keep kids and teens busy and engaged during the summer break. Summer at SAPL helps each member of the family make joyful connections with reading, books, their library, and their neighbors. All programs and activities are provided at no cost.

San Antonio Fire Department:

SAFD offers the Co-Ed Heroes and HeroLikeHer Camps, which introduce youth to the career of firefighting with hands-on experiences with SAFD firefighters. Even if camp attendees may not want to pursue a firefighting career, the camps provide the opportunity to develop skills and build relationships with SAFD role models. Camps for 2023 will be held over three weekends in June and July; two days for ages 13-18 and one-day mini camps are offered for kids 8-12. There is no charge to attend any SAFD Camp.

San Antonio Police Department:

In 2021, the San Antonio Police Department created the High School Summer Camp to promote and reinforce positive relationships between the Department, local youth, and their families. The Summer Camp focuses on high school students ages 14 to 17 who are interested in a career in law enforcement. The Camp is designed to take the attendees through the life of a cadet and an officer. The camp is held Monday through Friday from 9 am until 12 noon with two (2) two-week camps offered each summer. Additionally, the Police Corps program, offered year-round, offers an opportunity to young adults interested in a career in law enforcement and an in-depth look at what the job entails.

Metro Health Department:

The Metro Health Department youth programming is year-round and includes the Mayor's Fitness Council Student Ambassador Program, which aims to improve the health of San Antonio by providing students with the opportunity to represent the Mayor's Fitness Council and encouraging healthy living at their school campus, at home, and in their surrounding communities. The student ambassador program is a two-year program that students in middle and high school can participate in to create a health and wellness-focused service project that meets a need at their school campus or in the community. Additionally, the department offers the Project Worth program. The program's mission promotes child and teen health and well-being through education, collaboration, and empowerment.

Department of Human Services:

Human Services offers two main programs for the youth, and work alongside delegate agencies to provide summer programming across San Antonio during the summer and year-round. The Ambassador Summer Internship program focuses on funding summer internships for college students who completed at least 2 semesters of college. The program receives over 600

applications to fill 200 internships for the summer, and Over 75% of internships offered are in non-COSA organizations, including nonprofits, private-sector, and medical fields. The NXT Level: AlamoPROMISE Scholars partners with Alamo Colleges District and is the only non-traditional pathway for young adults to attend AlamoPROMISE.

Municipal Courts:

Municipal Courts provide two both summer and year-round youth programs. Between June and August, youth offenders between 13-17 years of age can be court-ordered to attend youth activities as a condition of probation. Activities scheduled in collaboration with city departments between June – August, and includes community service, education and cultural activities, and youth enrichment classes. Year-round youth services offered by the courts include truancy services, and peer court programs that allow teen defendants to have their cases heard amongst peers. The court also offers classes for parents and youth that focuses on building healthy communication between youth and parent.

ISSUE:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

ALTERNATIVES:

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FISCAL IMPACT:

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RECOMMENDATION:

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