



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: 4

Agenda Date: November 20, 2023

In Control: Governance Committee Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Office of the City Manager

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Erik Walsh, City Manager

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Council Consideration Request on Opioid-Related Overdoses and Access to Narcan

SUMMARY:

A Council Consideration Request (CCR) from Councilmember Teri Castillo requesting to designate opioid-related overdoses a public health crisis and focus on efforts to help reduce fatalities among those facing addiction issues.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On June 27, 2023 Councilmember Teri Castillo issued a Council Consideration Request (CCR) requesting the City Manager, City Attorney, SA Metro Health, and other appropriate departments develop for City Council consideration and adoption a resolution which designates drug overdoses, specifically Opioid-related overdoses, a public health crisis and operationalizes the following actions to reduce deaths and other community harms caused by Opioid addiction:

1. Establish a budget plan with harm reduction strategies for the expenditure of funds related to the Opioid settlement payments.
2. Explore expanding availability, training, and use of Naxalone (Narcan) for community-based non-profits and workers in all public-facing COSA departments as well as COSA owned, managed, and/or leased buildings.
3. Develop and fund a COSA-sponsored program for pregnant people and new mothers experiencing Opioid addiction.

Current Programs funded in the FY 2024 Budget

The San Antonio Fire Department through its Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program (MIH) provides two programs to the community addressing opioid addiction. These programs are the Opioid Program Crisis Response and the Poly-Opioid Program Crisis Response. These programs respond to multiple types of opioid overdoses with immediate services with the goal of connecting patients to a detox bed and/or treatment. (\$488,000 for FY 2024)

The San Antonio Metro Health Department with the use of ARPA funds awarded moneys to non-profits for harm reduction programs with the goal of connecting individuals with substance use concerns to medication and treatment services to improve their well-being, decrease the risk of death, and increase the availability of bystander trainings in harm reductions and the use of Naxalone. (\$638,000 over two years).

Additionally, the Human Services Department for medically assisted treatment (MAT) of 30 individuals identified by the Homeless Outreach Team with substance use disorders. (\$100,000 for FY 2024).

ISSUE:

The City of San Antonio anticipates receiving a total amount of \$6,072,227.37 as its share of an opioid litigation settlement, to be paid out over 18 years.

A plan to utilize these funds, that addresses the efforts highlighted in the CCR, will be presented to the City Council as part of the FY 2024 Three Plus Nine Financial Report in February 2024.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item is for briefing purposed only.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposed only.

RECOMMENDATION:

A plan to utilize opioid settlement funds, that addresses the efforts highlighted in the CCR, will be presented to the City Council as part of the FY 2024 Three Plus Nine Financial Report in February 2024.

