



## **Mental Health – Recommended Implementation Plan For the use of ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**

### **Background**

On March 11, 2021, Congress signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) which included resources to support local government's response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The City of San Antonio was awarded \$326.9 million in State and local Fiscal Recovery Funds. As part of the FY 2022 Budget process, City Council approved \$97.5 million to support the city budget and address community needs. On November 18, 2021, Council approved an additional \$30.0 million for utility assistance. The remaining \$199.4 million remained unallocated and was intended to be awarded following a community engagement process that began in the fall of 2021.

On January 26, 2022 staff presented a recommended spending framework reflecting Community and City Council input. The final spending framework was approved by City Council on February 3, 2022. The approved spending framework included \$26 million recommended for programmatic funding dedicated to support residents with mental health stressors exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through a comprehensive plan, San Antonio Metro Health District will manage investments for organizations in the amount of \$26 million through a competitive process. This document outlines the implementation plan.

### **Eligibility**

#### **Eligible Organizations**

- Nonprofit organizations (501 (c) 3)
- Faith-Based organizations
- Public Entities (including non-COSA government agencies)

#### **Additional Information on Eligibility**

- Must have been in existence and actively producing programs that are open to the public in the City of San Antonio for a minimum of two years
- Must demonstrate agency and/or residents served have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Additional points will be awarded for agencies who partner with agencies that have not been in existence for a minimum of two years

### **Program Funding and Competitive Process**

The total allocation to the Mental Health Spending Category is \$26 Million. The Implementation Plan proposes to allocate \$23 Million through a competitive process to eligible organizations to assist the City in delivering the services recommended within the plan.

The Metro Health Department is proposing to award mental health investments to support access to programs that directly benefit Youth, Seniors and Homeless individuals through a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process for distribution of investments for nonprofit and social services organizations.

#### **Awards:**

- Minimum of \$100,000 over two-year contract term

## Targeted Populations

### Youth

The Proposed Implementation Plan proposes three strategies to address the increased social isolation, anxiety, and depression experienced by youth by:

- Expanding access to mental health services for children and youth ages 12 to 19
  - The City will request responders for innovative ideas to provide services including the use of technology
  - The City will also request in-person services at Parks and Recreation Community Centers, Service Provider Locations, and schools
- Expanding Metro Health Project Worth Teen Ambassador and Expanding Metro Health Stand Up SA
- Providing diagnostic services and individual service family plan development for families of children up to the age of 6 experiencing developmental disorders

The Proposed Implementation Plan proposes services to youth ages 12 to 19 in census tracts where there is a high concentration of:

- Mental Health Hospitalizations
- 911 Calls
- Equity Atlas Score of 6 and above

The Proposed Implementation Plan proposes diagnostic services and individual service family plan development for families of children up to the age of 6 experiencing developmental disorders in census tracts with an Equity Atlas Score of 6 and above.

### Older Adults

The Implementation Plan proposes three strategies to address the increased social isolation, anxiety, and depression experienced by older adults by:

- Expanding navigation programs to connect older adults to mental health resources and referrals
- Increasing interaction activities at City of San Antonio senior centers and extending service hours at comprehensive senior centers
- Increasing social interaction activities at community sites in census tracts with a City Equity Atlas Score of 6 and above
- Offering program services and coaching for loved ones caring for older adults in census tracts with a City Equity Atlas Score of 6 and above

The Proposed Implementation Plan proposes a pilot program to extend hours at the Comprehensive Senior Centers across the City. The current hours are Monday through Friday from 7am to 4pm. The implementation plan proposes a pilot program to extend the hours from 4pm to 7pm Monday through Thursday at these centers for two years. The Senior Center locations are:

Comprehensive Senior Center	Location	Council District
West End Park	1226 NW 18th St. 78207	1
District 2 Senior Center	1751 S. W.W. White Rd. 78220	2
South Side Lions	3303 Pecan Valley Dr. 78210	3
Willie Cortez	5512 SW Military Dr. 78242	4
Heritage Park	Under Construction. To be completed in FY 2023	
District 5 Senior Center	2701 S. Presa 78210	5
Normoyle	700 Culberson 78211	
Alicia Treviño Lopez	8353 Culebra Rd 78251	6
Doris Griffin	6157 NW Loop 410 78238	7
Bob Ross	2219 Babcock 78229	8
Walker Ranch	835 W. Rhapsody 78216	9
Northeast	4135 Thousand Oaks 78247	10

## Stakeholder Engagement

San Antonio Metro Health District held two public input meetings, two provider and stakeholder feedback sessions, one session with school districts, and two sessions with faith leaders from June 23 - July 21, 2022. The purpose of these sessions was to share community and City Council input, gather suggestions on proposed funding priorities and goals, and finalize performance indicators.

### Participating Stakeholders (6/29 and 7/11):

Alamo Area Council of Governments	Family Service Association of San Antonio, Inc.	San Antonio Behavioral Healthcare Hospital
All of Us or None, Texas	Haven for Hope	San Antonio State Hospital
Alpha Home	Jewish Family Service	Sigma Mental Health Urgent Care
Bexar County Department of Behavioral Health	Laurel Ridge Treatment Center	Texas Vista Medical Center
Bexar County Juvenile Probation	Lifetime Recovery	The San Antonio Clubhouse
Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Texas	NAMI San Antonio	University Health
Bridges to Care	Providence Place	University of Incarnate Word
Center for Health Care Services	PsychHealth	UT Health San Antonio
CentroMed	Purple Couch Counseling and Consulting PLLC	UT Teen Health
Clarity Child Guidance Center	Reliable Medical Technology	WestCare Foundation/WestCare Texas
Communities In Schools San Antonio	Roy Maas Youth Alternatives	YMCA
Ecumenical Center	SAMMinistries	

### Participating School Districts (6/27):

Alamo Heights ISD	Harlandale ISD	South San Antonio ISD
Comal ISD	North East ISD	Southwest ISD
East Central ISD	Northside ISD	Region 20
Edgewood ISD	San Antonio ISD	

## Funding Priority Investments

COVID – 19 Impact	Strategy/Programs	Equitable Outcomes	Performance Indicators	Allocation Amount
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Youth</u></b> Address the increased social isolation, anxiety, depression, and suicide in school age youth</p>	Expand access to mental health services for children and youth	Increased access to mental health care for school-aged children and youth ages 12-19	<p>% of children and youth are able to identify resources for mental health support</p> <p>% of participating children and youth report a decrease in depression, stress, anxiety and/or suicidal ideation</p> <p>% of participating school children report decrease in discipline at school</p> <p>% of participating children and youth report an increase in school attendance</p>	\$12.75 million
	Expand Project Worth Teen ambassadors Expand Stand Up SA	Improved positive social/emotional skills and behavior among SA youth 7th-12th grade	% of participating children and youth report an increase in positive social/emotional skills and behavior	\$750K
	Provide diagnostic services and individual service family plan development for families of children experiencing developmental disorders in coordination with school districts	Increased access for children diagnosed with developmental disorders and coordination with Schools	% reduction in waiting list for children of up to the Age of 6 waiting to be diagnosed with a developmental disorder	\$1.5 million

COVID – 19 Impact	Strategy/Programs	Equitable Outcomes	Performance Indicators	Allocation Amount
<p><b><u>Older Adults</u></b> Address the increased social isolation, anxiety, depression in older adults</p>	Expand navigation programs to connect older adults to mental health resources and referrals	Older adults will have increased awareness of existing programs and access to services for individuals experiencing mental health challenges	% of participating older adults report a decreased anxiety and depression due to social isolation	\$500K
	Social interaction activities/programs at senior & community sites and citywide. Expand service hours at City's Comprehensive Senior Centers	Improved quality of life for older adults by mitigating social/emotional issues and isolation	% increase in participation at City's Comprehensive Senior Centers	\$4.2 million
	Caregiver program services and coaching for loved ones caring for older adults	Improved quality of care provided by caregivers	% increased caregiver participation in support services to improve quality of caregiving	\$300K
<p><b><u>Homeless</u></b> Address the increased homeless population with mental health and substance abuse</p>	Outreach teams connect chronic and unsheltered veteran homeless population to available mental health, substance use, and housing resources	Improved access to mental health, substance use, and housing resources for those experiencing homelessness	% chronic veteran homeless connected to federal resources allocated for mental health, substance use, and housing resources	\$1 million
	Outreach and Services available to Youth aging out of foster care system	Increased access to services for youth aging out of the foster care system	% of Youth connected to services and resources	\$4 million

COVID – 19 Impact	Strategy/Programs	Equitable Outcomes	Performance Indicators	Allocation Amount
<p><b>Collaboration</b> Address behavioral health problems in Bexar County where COVID-19 has exacerbated existing conditions</p>	Collaborate with community partners to establish a framework to serve and align upstream systems and organizations	Improves coordination of services to improve access to community	% organizations engaged in collaboration	In-Kind Metro Health Staff
	Collaborate with community partners to recommend/Identify a central phone number to respond to pre-crisis calls from individuals needing support and navigation		% individuals who call and have needs met	In-Kind Metro Health Staff
	Collaborate with community partners to develop a public education campaign to address mental health stigma and create hope for those affected by mental illness	Improves coordination of services to improve access to community	% of individuals with increased awareness of how to access mental health services	\$1 Million
	Collaborate with Bexar County and Center for Health Care Services to evaluate the recent deployed 988 line for mental health calls			

## Request for Proposal Timeline

DATE	ACTION ITEM
September 1, 2022	City Council A-Session Briefing
September 6 and 8	Technical Assistance Workshops
September 9, 2022	Request for Proposal Opens
September 16, 2022	Pre-Submittal Conference
September 19, 2022	Last Day/Time for Questions
October 28, 2022	Request for Proposal Closes
November 2022	Evaluation and Scoring
December 15, 2022	City Council A Session – Approval of Awards
January 1, 2023	Contracts Begin

## No Contact Period

In accordance with §2-61 of the City Code, interested applicants are prohibited from communication regarding the Mental Health Services RFP with City Officials and Employees during specific portions of the competitive process. The Department of Human Services, in line with prior competitive RFPs issued is recommending an abbreviated no contact period for City Officials as reflected below.

- **City Employees:** September 9, 2022 until the date proposed awards are approved by City Council.
- **City Officials:** October 28, 2022 until the date the City Manager posts proposed awards for City Council consideration.

## Scoring Criteria

- **Experience Background and Qualifications: 30 Points**
  - Agency experience
  - Financial management
  - History providing mental health services
- **Proposed Plan: 40 Points**
  - Demonstrate disproportionate COVID-19 impacts to organization or residents
  - Alignment with proposed program strategies, outcomes, and performance indicators
  - Identify how support to organizations and residents assists them thrive long-term
  - Community collaboration
  - Partnering with qualifying entities with less than two years of experience
- **Budget and Budget Narrative: 20 Points**
  - Prior receipt of federal COVID-19 funding assistance
  - Leveraged agency resources
  - Capacity building investments
  - Long-term sustainability
- **Evaluation, Innovation, and/or Continuity of Effective Programming: 10 Points**
  - Demonstrate effective programming through evaluation
  - Build on existing programming and infrastructure