



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**

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**Agenda Item Number:** {{item.number}}

**Agenda Date:** January 13, 2022

**In Control:** City Council A Session

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**DEPARTMENT:** Health Department

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:**

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

Annual State of Texas Grant Funding for FY 2023

**SUMMARY:**

This ordinance authorizes the annual submission of 21 grant renewal applications and the acceptance of funds upon award in an estimated amount of \$14,163,068.00 from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) for public health functions of the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health) for a period beginning July 1, 2022, through December 31, 2023. Metro Health's participation in these 21 state grant programs serve a legitimate public purpose in that this funding will promote and provide needed public health functions throughout the community. Additionally, of the \$14,163,068.00 in funding, \$571,977.00 are American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funds for the Disease Intervention Specialists Workforce Grant.

This action also authorizes the finalization of programmatic budgets, incidental expenditures for grant program participants, and a personnel complement of 163 grant funded positions for the maintenance and delivery of essential public health services within Metro Health as reflected in Attachment I. Temporary support is included in the current budget and will be redirected to personnel if approved by the grantor. In addition, this ordinance authorizes the Director of Metro Health to initiate, negotiate, and execute any and all necessary documents and grant contracts to effectuate the application and acceptance of the referenced grants, and to execute contract amendments pertaining to these contracts, to include: a) carry-over funds, when ascertained and

approved by the funding agency through a revised notice of award; b) line item budget revisions authorized by the funding agency; c) modifications to the performance measures authorized by the funding agency and listed in the contracts so long as the terms of the amendment stay within the general parameters of the intent of the grant; d) no cost extensions; e) amendments which will provide supplemental grant funds to a grant by the funding agency in an amount up to 20% of the total amount initially awarded to the grant; f) reimbursement increases of administrative funds for each participant served; g) amendments funding one-time equipment purchases or defined program services; and h) changes in state regulations mandated by the funding agency.

This ordinance authorizes the execution of agreements funded by one of these DSHS grant awards, to include agreements with the San Antonio AIDS Foundation, San Antonio Nexus Connection, The Center for Health Care Services, Healthy Futures of Texas, Fiesta Youth, and the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio for amounts up to \$35,000.00 each with a term commencing December 1, 2021 and ending July 31, 2022, with the option to renew for one, one-year term for a total amount of \$70,000.00 inclusive of the renewal. The agreements are funded by the Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) grant.

Furthermore, this ordinance authorizes the Director of Metro Health to execute Memoranda of Agreement, to include Data Use Agreements and Business Associate Agreements, that enhance program services with no exchange of funds associated with these grant-funded projects.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

As the public health authority for Bexar County, Metro Health actively addresses the public health functions of policy development, health assessment, and health assurance. To carry out these responsibilities, Metro Health operates evidenced based programs in various settings throughout the County. These 21 DSHS grant awards support 163 grant-funded positions which will account for 33% of the total number of Metro Health staff (512 positions) as adopted through the City's annual budget for FY 2022. The Department provides services to residents at public health settings and service locations located throughout the City and Bexar County. With State grant support, Metro Health provides preventive health services, community education, limited clinical services to prevent communicable diseases, emergency preparedness, disease control, supplemental nutrition programs, and dental health services.

Metro Health receives approximately 18% of its total budget support through these 21 contract and grant awards from the State of Texas in both direct funding and federal pass-through funding. Since 2007, this support has been authorized by City Council through a block submission of state grant applications and renewals, most recently on January 14, 2021 (Ordinance 2021-01-14-0007) as well as individual actions. Metro Health will request \$14,163,068.00 in funding from DSHS through this ordinance.

Service delivery and personnel complement needs are anticipated to remain consistent with the adopted DSHS FY 2022 budgets for the following State and Federal pass-through grants:

- Local Immunizations
- Federal STD
- HIV Surveillance
- Federal TB

- State TB
- TB Waiver Project
- Surveillance Epidemiology
- State Milk Sample Lab Testing Program
- State Flu Surveillance
- WIC (2 awards)
- Triple O
- Title V Dental
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Bioterrorism Preparedness
- PHEP Cities Readiness Initiative
- PHEP Lab
- EXHALE - Education on asthma self-management, Extinguishing smoking and secondhand smoke, home visits for trigger reduction and asthma self-management, Achievement of guidelines-based medical assessment linkages and coordination of care across settings, environmental policies or best practices to reduce asthma triggers from indoor, outdoor and occupational sources
- Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE)
- Diabetes Prevention and Control
- Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) Workforce Development- This funding is part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) and is intended to support strengthening STD Prevention and Control for Health Departments. The goal of this funding is to support government jurisdictions to hire, expand, train, sustain, and support Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS). A total of 10 positions will be authorized with the grant to conduct interviews with persons with HIV, syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia and provide exams and treatment for these diseases. These positions will serve an estimated 780 patients in one year.

This action will authorize a total of 163 grant positions, 10 more positions than the number of positions authorized by DSHS for FY 2022. Temporary support is included in the current budget and will be redirected to personnel if approved by the grantor. A list of the grantors, grant amounts and CFDA numbers is attached as Table 1.

The application amount authorized by this ordinance of \$14,163,068.00 represents a \$520,245.00 increase over the current State and federal pass-through FY 2022 funding. Final amounts will be determined by State Agencies and may result in higher or lower amounts.

Additionally, the Department requests approval to execute contracts with entities listed below funded with DSHS EHE grant award monies for amounts up to \$35,000.00 for terms commencing December 1, 2021 and ending July 31, 2022, with the option to renew for one, one-year term for total amounts of \$70,000.00 inclusive of renewal:

- San Antonio AIDS Foundation
- San Antonio Nexus Connection
- The Center for Health Care Services
- Healthy Futures of Texas
- Fiesta Youth
- University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

Frequently Metro Health requests City Council authorize agreements with agencies for the provision of services relating to Metro Health programs and projects. Many times these agreements do not include the exchange of funds between the City and these agencies; however, the execution of these agreements does require City Council action. The Department requests authorization for the Director of Metro Health to execute MOAs, to include Data Use Agreements and Business Associate Agreements, with no exchange of funds that enhance programs or services associated with these grant-funded programs.

## **ISSUE:**

Historically, the State of Texas has provided funding to the City of San Antonio for service delivery in health and disease prevention. Currently, this includes 21 program grants and contracts through the Texas Department of State Health Services.

State and federal funding opportunities are often presented in a time-sensitive manner, requiring the ability to initiate and execute grant submissions, amendments, and subsequent awards within prescribed time constraints. Approval of this ordinance allows for a proactive and efficient process for the timely submission and execution of state/federal funding requests. This comprehensive approach maximizes Metro Health, City administration, and City Council resources; expedites the annual support process; coordinates Metro Health's annual funding processes; and provides City Council with a concise illustration of grant support and Metro Health programs.

Acceptance of funds from the State of Texas continues the long-standing practice of utilizing grant funds to support some of the local public health programs of the City.

## **ALTERNATIVES:**

Approval of this ordinance will facilitate the efficient application for and acceptance of ongoing grants from the State and leads to seamless continuity of Metro Health services.

Alternatively, each of the 21 grants and the contracts could be submitted separately to Council for approval. This would require individual Council consideration, action, time, and processing causing potential delays in funding, resources, and service delivery. Alleviating inefficient processing delays allows personnel and City resources to be utilized proactively, effectively, and efficiently to advance the public health efforts of the Department.

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

This ordinance authorizes the submission of 21 annual grant renewal applications with the State of Texas and the acceptance of funds in an amount of \$14,163,068.00 in funding and authorizes acceptance of any prior year carry-forward support, as allowed by the funding agency.

These 21 grant awards will support 163 grant-funded positions. The City will provide an estimated \$334,692.00 of in-kind services from the General Fund to these grants.

Additionally, of the \$14,163,068.00 in funding, \$571,977.00 are ARPA funds for the Disease Intervention Specialists Workforce Grant.

This ordinance also authorizes the execution of contracts with the following entities: San Antonio AIDS Foundation, San Antonio Nexus Connection, The Center for Health Care Services, Healthy Futures of Texas, Fiesta Youth and the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, each for the amount up to \$35,000.00 for a term ending July 31, 2022 with the option to renew for one, one-year term. Funding for these agreements is available and budgeted in the Ending the HIV Epidemic grant fund.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of an ordinance authorizing the submission of 21 annual grant renewal applications to the State of Texas totaling \$14,163,068.00, acceptance of funds upon award, approval of the personnel complement, execution of grant contracts and amendments, authorization to execute contracts with San Antonio AIDS Foundation, San Antonio Nexus Connection, The Center for Health Care Services, Healthy Futures of Texas, Fiesta Youth, and the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio funded by the EHE grant, and authorization for the Director of Metro Health to execute MOA's, to include DUAs and BAAs with no exchange of funds associated with these grant projects.