



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**

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**Agenda Item Number:** 15

**Agenda Date:** January 13, 2022

**In Control:** City Council A Session

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**DEPARTMENT:** Department of Human Services

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Melody Woosley

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

Emergency Food and Shelter Program Funding and Application and Professional Services Agreement with Catholic Charities of San Antonio

**SUMMARY:**

This ordinance authorizes the request and acceptance of reimbursement funding from the National Board of Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) by adding an amount of \$1,002,500 for a total amount up to \$1,957,888, for qualifying migrant services expenses incurred through March 31, 2022 and authorizes an amendment to a professional services agreement with Catholic Charities Archdiocese of San Antonio, Inc. in an amount up to \$500,000, for a total contract value of \$700,000, for a term through March 31, 2022. Funding for reimbursement will be requested through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP).

Furthermore, this ordinance authorizes the Director of Human Services to accept supplemental grant funds in an amount up to 20% of the total amount initially awarded.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) was signed into law, providing \$110 million to the EFSP to help defray the costs that state and local service agencies (non-profit, faith-based, and governmental) may incur in providing shelter, food and supportive services to families and individuals encountered by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Since January 1, 2021 as part of ARPA Humanitarian Relief, the City of San Antonio has served migrants traveling through San Antonio in route to their final destinations. In partnership with the Interfaith Welcome Coalition, Endeavors, and Catholic Charities, the City of San Antonio has provided emergency shelter, food, transportation, and support services to individuals and families as they navigate the immigration process

On August 19, 2021, the San Antonio City Council approved a professional services contract with Catholic Charities of San Antonio to provide operational funding to Catholic Charities to provide local nonprofit resource coordination, migrant travel assistance, local transportation, hotel lodging and resource coordination.

The initial funding term of the 2021 ARPA EFSP appropriations was through December 31, 2021. On December 29, 2021, the National EFSP Board provided notification that an additional application period for reimbursement requests will be opened from April 15 – 30, 2022 to review requests for eligible expenses from January 1, 2022 – March 31, 2022. As this reimbursement will be funded through prior year appropriations, primary services (food and overnight shelter) will be given priority for reimbursement.

## **ISSUE:**

As mentioned, since January 1, 2021, the City of San Antonio has served migrants traveling through San Antonio in route to their final destinations. In partnership with the Interfaith Welcome Coalition, Endeavors, and Catholic Charities, the City of San Antonio has provided emergency shelter, food, transportation, and support services to individuals and families as they navigate the immigration process. From January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2021, the City has requested or will request a total of \$955,386 for expenses associated with the services provided to migrants.

The City, working with our partners, will continue providing these services to migrants and project spending approximately \$1,002,500 from January 1, 2022 through March 31, 2022. In order to provide these services, this ordinance will authorize an amendment to the professional services agreement with Catholic Charities in an amount of \$500,000 for a total contract amount of \$700,000. These expenses will be included in City's reimbursement requested from EFSP for expenses incurred through March 31, 2022.

Funding for services is supported by the Department of Human Services and eligible for reimbursement through EFSP. The confirmed EFSP application schedule is as follows:

<b>CY 2021 Quarter</b>	<b>Application Available</b>	<b>Eligible Reimbursement Period</b>	<b>Expenses submitted for reimbursement</b>	<b>Reimbursement Amount</b>
1	04/19/2021 – 04/30/2021	1/1/2021 - 3/31/2021	04/30/2021	\$90,296 (Awarded)
2	7/15/2021 – 07/31/2021	1/1/2021 - 6/30/2021	07/31/2021	\$48,350 (Awarded)
3	10/15/2021 – 10/31/2021	1/1/2021 - 9/30/2021	10/31/2021	\$294,790 (Pending Award)
4	01/15/2022 – 01/31/2022	1/1/2021 - 12/31/2021	01/31/2022	\$521,952 (Projected)
<b>CY 2022 Quarter</b>	<b>Application Available</b>	<b>Eligible Reimbursement Period</b>	<b>LRO App Submission Deadline to LB</b>	<b>Reimbursement Amount</b>
1	04/15/2022 – 04/30/2022	1/1/2022 – 3/31/2022	04/30/2022	\$1,002,500 (Projected)

As indicated in the table, the City is pending reimbursement for expenses through September 30, 2021. However, the amount that has historically been reimbursed has been 99% of the total amount submitted.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

Should authority to apply and accept funding not be approved, the Department of Human Services would reallocate funding to cover the costs of services. Such action may delay or withdraw services to migrants and negatively impact children and families currently being served.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

This ordinance authorizes the Department of Human Services to request and accept reimbursement funding from the National Board of Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) reimbursement funds through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), adding an additional \$1,002,500 for a total amount up to \$1,957,888, for qualifying migrant services through March 31, 2022. This amount includes the \$500,000 proposed for Catholic Charities to provide overnight sheltering and associated services.

Since January 2021, funding to support migrant operations has been supported through Federal EFSP program reimbursement of City of San Antonio expenses. Should full program costs not be reimbursed through EFSP funding, funding for these expenses would need to be identified by

redirecting General Fund allocations in the FY 2022 Adopted Budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance authorizing approval to apply and accept future reimbursement funds from the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) for migrant services and amendment of the professional services contract with Catholic Charities of San Antonio.