



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 19

Agenda Date: May 19, 2022

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Fire Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Charles Hood, Fire Chief

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

FY 2022 STRAC Overdose Prevention and Crisis Response Donation Acceptance.

SUMMARY:

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of a contribution from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC) in the amount up to \$79,878.00, approves a program budget and appropriates funds to be used by the San Antonio Fire Department Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) unit to improve overdose prevention and crisis response of residents that have suffered alcohol and other Substance Use Disorders (SUD). Funding is for the period of Oct 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC) was established to facilitate the development, implementation, and operation of a regional comprehensive trauma and emergency healthcare system based on accepted standards of care to decrease morbidity and mortality. Funds from STRAC are awarded to assist in improving the functionality of EMS agencies in the State of Texas. STRAC has received funding from the Overdose Prevention and Crisis Response Program to improve overdose prevention and crisis response of residents that have

suffered alcohol and other Substance Use Disorders.

Overdose Prevention and Crisis Response project aims to reduce limitations, improve equity of existing Emergency Medical Service (EMS/MIH) programs, and expand to address alcohol and other substance use disorders. The scope of the expansion shall include recovery support for each overdose and MIH support to remediate substance misuse, moderate and severe and other substance use disorders, and overdose-related fatalities. This contract is funded with supplemental COVID-19 (Coronavirus Disease of 2019) funding, which will serve Texas residents affected by use of alcohol and other substances. The main strategies for the Overdose Prevention and Crisis Response Project – alcohol and other substances use disorders are as follows:

A. Expansion of MIH program tasked to respond to and address the needs of our community, and will include building COVID-19 awareness, education about COVID-19, and access to COVID vaccines for residents

B. MIH program will offer services to qualifying residents who are at risk of overdose from alcohol, cocaine, methamphetamine, or other poly-substance use. Patients can be found several different ways: Post overdose 911 calls, internal referrals from EMS/Fire crews or existing Texas Targeted Opioid Response (TTOR) / Medication-Assisted Treatment teams (MAT), external referrals from existing partners (San Antonio Council on Alcohol and Drug Awareness, New Seasons Treatment Centers, Haven for Hope, Center for Healthcare Services).

ISSUE:

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of funds from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC) in the amount up to \$79,878.00, approves a program budget and appropriates funds.

The program focuses in connecting individuals identified as being at high risk of and other substance use disorders related to COVID-19 and Mobile Integrated Healthcare support in collaboration with local practitioners. The donation will fund MIH paramedics to visit patients at their homes or at the hospital the day after the patient is experiences an overdose and is treated by the SAFD. The follow up visit is educational regarding the use of alcohol, cocaine, methamphetamine, or other poly-based substance use. MIH Paramedics will work to connect individuals with various treatment, recovery services and/or peer support or any other additional resources. (Detox, San Antonio Council on Alcohol and Drug Awareness, Laurel Ridge)

ALTERNATIVES:

There are no other funds available to the San Antonio Fire Department to fund this program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of funds from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC) in the amount up to \$79,878.00, approves a program budget, and appropriates funds to be used by the Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) unit of the EMS division of the San Antonio Fire Department to help improve the outcomes of residents that have suffered overdose. There is no impact to the General Fund.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance to accept funds of up to \$79,878.00 from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC).