



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**

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**Agenda Item Number:** 32

**Agenda Date:** September 29, 2022

**In Control:** City Council A Session

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**DEPARTMENT:** Health Department

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Claude Jacob

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

Authorizing the acceptance of additional funds upon award from the CDC, authorizing a proposed program budget for the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District's Immunization and Vaccines for Children program.

**SUMMARY:**

This Ordinance authorizes the acceptance of additional funds upon award from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Office of Grant Services (OGS) for the Immunization and Vaccines for Children Program, in an amount not to exceed \$489,636.00 for a total amount up to \$3,531,189.00 and approves a personnel complement of 30 positions. Of the \$3,531,189.00, \$3,041,553.00 is available beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023. The remaining balance of \$489,636.00 is available through June 30, 2024. There is no impact on the General Fund in the form of a cash match.

The above referenced request for funding includes a project narrative, budget and budget narrative.

Furthermore, this ordinance authorizes the Director of Metro Health to initiate, negotiate, and execute any and all necessary documents and a grant contract to effectuate the acceptance of the referenced grant, and to execute contract amendments pertaining to this contract, to include

amendments which will provide supplemental grant funds to the grant by the funding agency in an amount up to 20% of the total amount awarded to the grant inclusive of this ordinance.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

In collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Office of Grants Services (OGS), Metro Health administers an immunization project (project) that works to reduce illnesses by maximizing the number of children immunized against vaccine-preventative diseases such as measles, rubella, mumps, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, polio, Haemophilus influenza type b, varicella, pneumonia, hepatitis A & B, rotavirus, human papillomavirus (HPV), influenza, and meningitis. The project has two components, the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program and the 317 Immunization Program (Section 317 Program).

The VFC Program provides vaccines recommended by the CDC and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) to 152 VFC-enrolled healthcare providers in San Antonio. The program targets children under 18 who meet one of the following criteria: eligible for Medicaid, uninsured, underinsured (i.e., the child's insurance does not cover immunizations), or American Indian or Alaska Native. The Section 317 Program provides supplemental vaccines targeted to eligible individuals and supports Metro Health's efforts to maintain or improve response activities to vaccine preventable disease public health threats. The VFC and Section 317 Programs also provide support for project personnel and infrastructure.

On June 23, 2022 City Council authorized Ordinance 2022-06-23-0515 which approved the acceptance of \$2,974,475.00 for the Immunizations and Vaccines for Children Program beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023 and authorized an existing personnel complement of 30 positions. On July 1, 2022, Metro Health received the notice of award in the amount of \$3,041,553.00.

The CDC also made available additional non-competitive Immunization Information Systems (IIS) funding through the Vaccines for Children and Immunization Cooperative Agreement this fiscal year. This funding will support ongoing operations, maintenance, and enhancements of IIS in recognition of the critical role IIS play in monitoring vaccination coverage; ensuring equitable distribution and administration of vaccine; and, in responding to public health emergencies. In response to the funding notification, Metro Health submitted a budget for \$489,636.00 to the CDC for IIS funding on August 1, 2022. These funds are intended to address challenges identified during the COVID-19 pandemic response or gaps in achieving the IIS functional standards.

The total funding amount, to include the additional non-competitive IIS funding, is up to \$3,531,189.00 for the Immunizations and Vaccines for Children Federal Grant and a personnel complement of 30 positions.

## **ISSUE:**

Metro Health has received funding from the CDC for the 317 Immunization and Vaccines for Children Programs for over 20 years to support public health immunization programming and vaccine delivery to Bexar County. The immunization of children to prevent illnesses like pertussis,

measles, rubella, mumps and other vaccine preventable diseases, continues to be an important health strategy. This Ordinance will allow Metro Health to continue the important work of providing enhanced education, outreach, technical support, immunizations, disease surveillance, adult/adolescent health activities, immunization registry activities and vaccine distribution services.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The funding provided through this grant supports vital immunization services for children. Should City Council choose not to approve the acceptance of additional funding, funds will be redistributed to other grantees, limiting opportunities to provide immunization services to San Antonio residents, particularly children.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of additional funds from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office of Grants Services (OGS), for the Immunization and Vaccines for Children Program for a total amount not to exceed \$3,531,189.00. Of the \$3,531,189.00, \$3,041,553.00 is available beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023. The remaining balance of \$489,636.00 is available through June 30, 2024. There is no impact on the General Fund in the form of a cash match.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of an Ordinance authorizing the acceptance of additional funds upon award from the CDC OGS to continue to provide immunization services for underserved children in San Antonio and Bexar County in order to prevent diseases.