



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 13

Agenda Date: February 9, 2023

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Health Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Claude Jacob

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Authorizing an agreement with Equal Heart

SUMMARY:

This ordinance authorizes an agreement with Equal Heart for the placement of AmeriCorps members to support the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health) in an amount up to \$13,200.00 for a period beginning January 23, 2023 through August 31, 2023, with the option to execute the agreement for up to two additional one-year terms for a total amount up to \$81,200.00 inclusive of all terms. Funding for the first contract term in the amount of \$13,200.00 is available in the FY 2023 General Fund Adopted Budget. Funding for future years is dependent upon City Council approval of the annual budget.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Equal Heart is a non-profit organization that currently receives two AmeriCorps grants that allows them to support organizations across the country plus their own direct service programs. Equal Heart places about 400 AmeriCorps members across 15 states annually. AmeriCorps members are a part of the network of 70,000 Americans that serve their communities to meet critical human needs across various areas of service.

The AmeriCorps Members will educate the community on asthma triggers and air quality in San Antonio. One AmeriCorps Member will work with the SA Kids Breathe (SAKB) Program to specifically support the EXHALE project. The EXHALE project addresses six strategies: expanding access to asthma-self management education, working with schools, health care systems, large worksites, and multi-unit housing properties to assess asthma, tobacco and environmental policies and looking at evidence-based interventions and best practices to develop or strengthen such policies. The AmeriCorps Member in the SAKB program will work directly with the EXHALE supervisor to support all six EXHALE strategies. The AmeriCorps Member will be trained on asthma and the triggers that exacerbate it, learn strategies to reduce or eliminate asthma triggers inside the home and school environments, assist with recruitment to the SAKB home educational program, and develop a presentation on these triggers and mitigation strategies for both allergens and irritants.

The second AmeriCorps Member will work with Metro Health's Air Quality Program. This program will identify and prioritize lower-income and minority communities based on an equity map that has been created by the City of San Antonio Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility. Once communities are identified, the Program will host clean air educational events. These events will present an opportunity to inform participants about the negative impact that ground-level ozone pollution and poor air quality have on human health and the environment. The AmeriCorps Member will participate at all levels of the program including planning, assisting with the procurement of resources, executing events, gathering data, tracking progress, creating reports, and various other duties associated with the educational events.

ISSUE:

Metro Health requests City Council authorize an agreement with Equal Heart in an amount up to \$13,200.00 for a period beginning January 23, 2023 through August 31, 2023, with the option to execute the agreement for two additional one-year terms for a total amount up to \$81,200.00 inclusive of all terms. The agreement will allow for the placement of AmeriCorps members to support the Metro Health's Asthma and Air Quality Programs.

ALTERNATIVES:

If this agreement is not authorized, then Metro Health will forego the opportunity to serve as a host site under Equal Heart and utilize AmeriCorps members to provide service to the Asthma and Air Quality Programs.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This ordinance authorizes the execution of an agreement with Equal Heart for the placement of AmeriCorps members to support the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health) in an amount up to \$13,200.00 for a period beginning January 23, 2023 through August 31, 2023, with the option to execute the agreement for two additional one-year terms for a total amount up to \$81,200.00 inclusive of all terms. Funding for the first contract term in the amount of \$13,200.00

is available in the FY 2023 General Fund Adopted Budget. Funding for future years is dependent upon City Council approval of the annual budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends City Council approve the ordinance and authorize the execution of the agreement with Equal Heart for the placement of AmeriCorps members at the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District.