



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**

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**Agenda Item Number:** 9

**Agenda Date:** February 9, 2023

**In Control:** City Council A Session

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**DEPARTMENT:** Fire Department

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Charles Hood, Fire Chief

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

FY 2023 STRAC Contribution Acceptance

**SUMMARY:**

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of funds from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC) up to the amount of \$713,609.00 and appropriates funds for the following first responder programs.

A. Polysubstance Overdose Prevention Crisis Response: \$330,631.00 to improve substance use disorder outcomes and response for residents that have suffered or are suffering from alcohol, methamphetamine, and other substance use disorders (SUD). The program will be managed by Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) unit of the San Antonio Fire Department (SAFD). Funding is for the period of January 1, 2023, to September 30, 2023.

B. Program for Intensive Care Coordination: \$382,978 to Department to help improve outpatient services of residents who are repeatedly emergency detained by law enforcement officers and taken to local hospitals due to mental illness. The program will be managed by the Mental Health Unit of the Police Department. Funding is for the period of January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The 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 emergency agencies in the State of Texas.

**A. Polysubstance Overdose Prevention Crisis Response** is a new program funded by STRAC. The primary goals of the program are to address alcohol and other substance use disorders by offering services to people who are living in the city limits of San Antonio and are at risk of overdose from opioids, alcohol, cocaine, methamphetamine, or other poly-substance use. Patients will be identified several different ways:

- a. Post overdose 911 calls,
- b. Internal referrals from EMS/Fire crews or existing OPCR teams
- c. External referrals from existing partners (SACADA, New Seasons, Haven, CHCS).

**B. Program for Intensive Care Coordination:** In 2019, STRAC received funding for a 6-month pilot program called the Program for Intensive Care Coordination (PICC) from the South Texas Crisis Collaborative (STCC), which is comprised of various healthcare systems and philanthropic organizations to reduce the number of high-volume emergency detentions to local hospitals. Due to the success of the 6-month pilot program, additional funding was provided for calendar year 2020, 2021, 2022 and now again in 2023.

The goal of the PICC is to reduce the number of emergency detentions and hospital costs. This is achieved through intervention. The PICC program utilizes two San Antonio Fire Department (SAFD) Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) paramedics to work side by side with two SAPD Mental Health Unit officers and the Local Mental Health Authority-Center Health Care Services (CHCS) personnel to connect with a high-volume utilizer during the pre and post mental health crisis. A representative from SAFD, SAPD and the Local Mental Health Authority will initially meet with each new high-volume utilizer to create a care plan for that individual. Once a care plan is developed the PICC team will work to keep the high-volume utilizer out of crisis and in care. MIH and the Mental Health Unit will assist with case management for high volume utilizers who are in need of services. The PICC team focuses on 100 high volume utilizers, rotating new individuals in as others are successfully discharged from the projection. Metrics to identify success include a reduction in emergency detention numbers and reduced hospital costs

## **ISSUE:**

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of a contribution from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC) in the amount up to \$713,609.00 approves a program budget and appropriates funds for eligible expenses including personnel, medications, and software & equipment costs.

## **ALTERNATIVES:**

If the City did not receive donation funds, these programs would not be possible unless expenses were to be charged to the General Fund and/or requested through the budget process. There are currently no budgeted funds for these programs.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of a contribution from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC) in the amount up to \$713,609.00 approves a program budget and appropriates funds for eligible expenses including personnel, medications, and software & equipment costs.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance to accept funding from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC).