



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 4

Agenda Date: March 9, 2023

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Department of Human Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Melody Woosley

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Ordinance approving the use of \$6,313,108 in ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to be invested in Mental Health, Youth and Seniors and establishing criteria for such funding.

SUMMARY:

Recommendations were approved by the Public Safety Committee and the Community Health, Environment and Culture (CHEC) Committee on February 21 and February 23 respectively.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On February 2, 2023, the City Council approved contract awards to 59 agencies for Mental Health Services, Non-Profit Social Services, Senior Services, and Youth Services. A balance of \$3.75 million was unallocated from this competitive process and the City Council directed this balance to the Governance Committee for discussion.

Additionally, on February 8, 2023, the City Council was provided with an update on the COVID-19 Recovery & Resiliency Plan and ARPA SLFRF Program. During this presentation, staff indicated that \$3.9 million was available to be allocated from interest income and program balances. The City Council directed this balance to also be discussed at the February 15 Governance Committee meeting.

On February 15, the Governance Committee discussed and considered staff recommendations for the use of \$7.65 million in ARPA Funds and allocated the funds as follows:

- \$1,498,462 for COVID-19 Construction Grants for Small Businesses was added to the on-going application process that opened Monday, February 13.
- \$4,638,192 for mental health services sent to the Public Safety Committee to develop a recommendation on the use of the funds for City Council consideration.
- \$1,515,445 for youth and seniors sent the CHEC Committee to develop a recommendation on the use of the funds for City Council consideration. In addition to the \$1.5 million, \$159,471 was added from unallocated funds from Non-Profit Immigration Services Phase I for a total of \$1,674,916.

ISSUE:

The Public Safety Committee and CHEC Committee held meetings on February 21 and February 23 respectively to discuss the use of funds as directed by the Governance Committee. The recommendations from the committees are as follows:

Public Safety Committee on Mental Health -\$4.63 Million:

- Address increased mental health needs of youth aging out of foster care and at-risk youth - \$3 Million
 - Wrap around services-housing, employment, access to resources
 - Mental health services
- Address increased 911 calls for family violence - \$1 Million
 - Navigation services
 - Legal services
 - Mental health services for families
- Address increased substance use and overdoses (Harm Reduction) - \$600,000
 - Increase access to Narcan
 - Substance use treatment

CHEC Committee on Youth and Seniors - \$1.67 Million

- Non-Profit Social Services (Youth & Senior Serving Agencies) - \$500,000
 - Financial hardship – flexible funding for improved operation to include technology upgrades, equipment, and data systems
- Senior Services - \$500,000
 - Increased food and resource security
 - Increased responsibility on informal and unpaid caregivers
- Youth Services - \$674,916
 - Increased homeless and opportunity youth

Competitive Process

A competitive solicitation process is recommended to seek agencies to provide the services addressing the priorities identified by the Public Safety and CHEC Committees.

- Eligible organizations
 - Nonprofit Organizations (501(c)3)

- Faith-Based Organizations
 - Public Entities (non-COSA)
 - Not received ARPA funds previously
- Scoring: Programs will be scored based on experience/background/qualifications, proposed plan, and budget
- Programs will be funded for 2-year contracts with no renewal

ALTERNATIVES:

Should City Council choose to not approve this item, Human Services and Health will return to the CHEC and Public Safety Committees for additional policy direction and make updates to the proposed implementation plans for future consideration.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The funds associated with this action in the amount of \$6,313,108 million are available from ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. In accordance with federal guidelines the funds should be committed by December 2024 and spent by December 2026.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this item.