

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM
SAN ANTONIO METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Fernando A. Guerra, M.D., M.P.H., Director of Health

THROUGH: Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

COPIES: Frances A. Gonzalez, Assistant to the City Manager; City Attorney's Office; Office of Management and Budget, Risk Management Division; Finance; Project; File

SUBJECT: ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A CASH GRANT AWARD FOR THE HEALTHY START INITIATIVE PROJECT

DATE: September 11, 2003

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This ordinance authorizes the City Manager to accept a cash grant award for the third year of a four year approved grant project in the amount of \$750,000.00 from the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) for the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (SAMHD) to continue the Healthy Start Initiative project for a third year to reduce the incidence of infant mortality and low birth weight in Bexar County, establish the project fund, adopt the project budget, and approve the personnel complement. This ordinance also authorizes a renewal of a subcontract with Our Lady of the Lake University (OLLU) in connection with the project, and authorizes payments for contractual services. The term of this third year budget period is June 1, 2003 through May 31, 2004.

Staff recommends approval.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The San Antonio Healthy Start Initiative brings together community leaders to identify and address issues associated with perinatal health disparities. In addition, the project increases public awareness of the problem through community health education, and provides extensive outreach, recruitment, case management and health education interventions to women and families within a specific target community in San Antonio. In order to promote longer interconceptional periods and prevent relapses of risk behaviors, project services are planned for mother and infant through the infant's second year of life.

The goals of San Antonio's Healthy Start project are to:

1. Reduce the overall infant mortality rate within the target community from 15.04 deaths per 1000 births (observed from 1998-2000) to 7.1 deaths per 1000 births by implementing

community based initiatives that build on current resources to improve perinatal health, with services delivered in a culturally and linguistically sensitive manner.

2. Enhance the community's perinatal service system by establishing a consortium of lay advisors and health care providers for the purpose of addressing disparities that affect perinatal health.

The objectives for the Healthy Start project were chosen based on the needs of the targeted community, the availability of baseline data, and the capacity of community organizations to affect perinatal health behavior change. The project objectives support several Texas Department of Health strategic performance measures including: reduction in teen births, early prenatal care, and children fully immunized by age two, as well as related objectives of the national program Healthy People 2010.

To accomplish these goals and objectives, SAMHD's Healthy Start project is incorporating the proven strategies of outreach and recruitment, case management and health education. This third year grant will allow SAMHD to continue to consolidate and augment current population-based programs related to prenatal and infant health into a more coordinated and efficient initiative tied closely with Healthy Start. Additionally, the grant supports better cooperation and linkages with other maternal and child health providers in the community to improve patient access and decrease barriers to health care. The personnel complement will consist of thirteen (13) personnel positions to administer and implement this project, a decrease of one part-time custodian position from the previous year's budget. This position was never filled and the funds allocated are now reprogramed to cover needed funds for rental of the facility.

POLICY ANALYSIS

Passage of this ordinance will continue the long-standing practice of utilizing Federal and State aid to support the local public health programs of the City.

This grant required an outside program evaluation element. This will be performed for the third year through a \$25,000.00 subcontract with Our Lady of the Lake University that is funded by the grant and also authorized by this ordinance.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

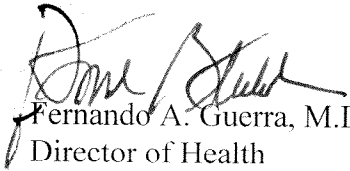
The budget for the Healthy Start Initiative consists of the cash grant award of \$750,000.00 from the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) and Case Management Medicaid Revenue of \$51,584.00, for a project total of \$801,584.00. This ordinance will place no demand on the City General Fund.

COORDINATION

The City Attorney's Office and Office of Management and Budget, Risk Management Division have reviewed and approved the HRSA Notice of Grant Award. The Finance Department has approved the proposed project budget.

SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS

Provisions of the Ethics Ordinance do not apply.



Fernando A. Guerra, M.D., M.P.H.
Director of Health



Frances A. Gonzalez
Assistant to the City Manager

APPROVED:



Terry M. Brechtel
City Manager