



CITY OF HOUSTON - CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: 10/15/2024

ALL

Item Creation Date: 3/20/2024

MYR - Council Approval to Accept Grant Funds Issued by OOG for Direct Services to Victims of Human Trafficking

Agenda Item#: 14.

Summary:

NOT A REAL CAPTION

ORDINANCE approving and authorizing the submission of an application for grant assistance to the **OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF TEXAS FOR THE GENERAL VICTIM ASSISTANCE – DIRECT SERVICES PROGRAM** (“Grant”) by the City of Houston Mayor’s Office; declaring the City’s eligibility for such Grant; authorizing the City of Houston Mayor to act as the City’s representative in the application process, with the authority to accept and expend such Grant Funds, as awarded, and to apply for, and accept, all subsequent awards, if any, pertaining to the program

Background:

In 2023 Council approved an ordinance which provided one year of continuation funding for 2 anti-human trafficking case managers to leverage the Mayor’s Office of Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence’s systems-level approach in meeting the need for comprehensive, victim-centered services including emergency shelter, intensive case management services, and referrals for healthcare and legal services.

Since our direct services program’s inception in 2017, we served 739 confirmed and potential victims of human trafficking. Because of our unique bridge to the shelter system, 112 victims also achieved longer-term housing. Victims served were diverse across gender, race, and age lines, and many had intersecting vulnerabilities, such as having experienced domestic violence and/or homelessness. Because of our program, case managers were able to rehabilitate victims by providing advocacy and accompaniment, offering emotional support and safety services such as crisis intervention, connecting victims with shelter and housing services, and making medical and mental healthcare referrals.

Council is now asked to approve an Ordinance authorizing a grant application for \$153,456.14 to the Office of the Governor of Texas for the General Victim Assistance - Direct Services Program by the City of Houston Mayor’s Office to fund the program for the grant period of October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025. The application does require, and this ordinance authorizes, the allocation of \$38,364.04 as the City’s cash match contribution.

Fiscal Note:

* Funding for this item is included in the FY25 Adopted Budget. Therefore, no Fiscal Note is required as stated in the Financial Policies.

* Funding for this item will be included in the FY26 Adopted Budget. Therefore, no Fiscal Note is required as stated in the Financial Policies.

* No Fiscal Note is required on grant items.

DocuSigned by:

 _____ 10/3/2024
 Minal Patel Davis, Director
 Mayor’s Office of Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence

Estimated Spending Authority			
Department	Current FY	Out Year	Total
Mayor’s Office	\$115,092.11	\$38,364.03	\$153,456.14
General Government	\$ 28,773.03	\$ 9,591.01	\$ 38,364.04
Total	\$143,865.14	\$47,955.04	\$191,820.18

Prior Council Action:

- Ordinance 2023-901 - October 25, 2023
- Ordinance 2022-972 - December 14, 2022
- Ordinance 2021-824 - September 22, 2021
- Ordinance 2020-933 - October 28, 2020
- Ordinance 2018-938 - November 28, 2018
- Resolution 2017-0031 - December 12, 2017

Amount and Source of Funding:

\$153,456.14 Grant Fund (5030) FED/LOCAL/STATE/STATE PASS
 \$ 38,364.04 General Fund (1000)
\$191,820.18 Total

Contact Information:

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ATTACHMENTS:

Description	Type
Certification_of_Funds_3327907	Financial Information
Interlocal Agreement with Harris Health for Hospital Case Manager	Backup Material
OOG VOCA 3327907 Grant Application	Backup Material
Statement of Award	Backup Material
Funding Information	Financial Information