



Legislation Text

File #: 0220-2019, Version: 1

Ordinance number 1300-2017, approved by City Council on June 5, 2017, authorized the Board of Health to enter into a contract with Equitas Health, in the amount of \$50,000.00 for a period through March 31, 2018, to continue a partnership with Columbus Public Health for a harm reduction program, called Safe Point. Ordinance 0680-2018, approved by City Council on March 26, 2018, modified this ordinance to increase and extend the original contract in the amount of \$12,500.00 and through June 30, 2018. Ordinance 1666-2018, approved by City Council July 7, 2018, modified the contract in the amount of \$125,000.00 and extended the contract through 12/31/2018. Ordinance 3109-2018, approved by City Council on November 19, 2018 modified by increasing, extending, and revising the Scope of Services of the contract in the amount of \$100,000.00, for a time period ending December 31, 2019 with Equitas Health.

This ordinance is needed to modify by increasing the contract in the amount of \$350,000.00 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$637,500.00, for a time period ending December 31, 2019 with Equitas Health. This modification is needed to continue the harm reduction program to opiate users.

Harm reduction services provided by Equitas Health allow clients who are at high-risk of accidental overdose death to access the lifesaving drug, Naloxone, and receive risk reduction counseling and overdose prevention education. Through 3rd quarter of 2018, Safe Point provided services to 1,935 individual clients. 1,413 lives were known to have been saved from Naloxone that was acquired at the Safe Point program. Clients who participate in the Safe Point program are provided access to many types of care that address both their active substance use disorder, as well as other social determinants of health. Throughout 2018, Safe Point provided 1,489 referrals for Alcohol and Drug Treatment, 116 linkages to medical care, provided overdose prevention education to 1,529 clients, and 48 referrals for behavioral or mental healthcare services.

Emergency action is requested for this contract modification in order to ensure Columbus has a harm reduction program to continue to save lives.

FISCAL IMPACT: The funds needed to modify this contract with Equitas Health are budgeted within the Health Department Special Revenue Fund and is contingent on the passing of ordinance 2871-2018.

To authorize the Board of Health to modify an existing contract with Equitas Health to continue to provide a harm reduction program, called Safe Point, through December 31, 2019; to authorize the expenditure from the Health Department Special Revenue Fund; and to declare an emergency. (\$350,000.00)

WHEREAS, it is necessary to modify the original contract, PO090908, with Equitas Health to continue a partnership with Columbus Public Health for a harm reduction program, called Safe Point by extending it through December 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, an emergency exists in the usual daily operation of Columbus Public Health in that it is immediately necessary to modify the contract with Equitas Health, PO090908, to ensure services are not interrupted, all for the immediate preservation of the public health, peace, property, safety and welfare; Now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

SECTION 1. That the Board of Health is hereby authorized to modify the contract with Equitas Health through December 31, 2019 by \$350,000.00, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$637,500.00.

SECTION 2. That to pay the cost of said contract modification; the expenditure of \$350,000.00 is hereby authorized from the Health Special Revenue Fund, Fund No. 2250, Department of Health, Department No. 50, Division No. 5001 per the accounting codes attached to this ordinance.

SECTION 3. That the funds necessary to carry out the purpose of this ordinance are hereby deemed appropriated, and the City Auditor shall establish such accounting codes as necessary.

SECTION 4. That the City Auditor is authorized to make any accounting changes to revise the funding source for all contracts or contract modifications associated with this ordinance.

SECTION 5. That for reasons stated in the preamble hereto, which is hereby made a part hereof, this ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor, or ten days after passage if the Mayor neither approves nor vetoes the same.