

City of Fort Worth, Texas

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 06/24/25 M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 25-0586

LOG NAME: 19INTERVENTIONS OF OPIOID USE FUNDING ALLOCATIONS 2025

SUBJECT

(ALL) Authorize Execution of a Contract with the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth Health Systems in an Amount Up to \$227,156.00 for the Purpose of Mitigating Harms Caused by Opioid Distribution and Use and Adopt Appropriation Ordinance Increasing Estimated Receipts and Appropriations in the Grants Operating Other Fund by \$761,379.85 for Allowable Expenses Related to Core Strategies and Broader Approved Uses as Provided by the Texas Opioid Abatement Fund Council for the TX Opioid Abatement Fund Project

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute a contract for a one-year term with the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth Health Systems in an amount up to \$227,156.00;
2. Authorize the City Manager or his designee to extend the contract for up to one year if the agency requests an extension and such extension is necessary for completion of the program, or to amend the contract if necessary to achieve program goals provided any amendment is within the scope of the program and in compliance with City policies and all applicable laws and regulations governing the use of these funds; and
3. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Operating Other Fund in the amount of \$761,379.85 for allowable expenses related to core strategies and broader approved uses as provided by the Texas Opioid Abatement Fund Council for the Texas Opioid Abatement Fund project (City Project No. 104782).

DISCUSSION:

Through the adoption of Resolution 5499-11-2021, adopted November 9, 2021, City Council joined the opioid settlement negotiated by the Texas Attorney General, affirmed its support for the adoption and approval of the *Texas Opioid Abatement Fund Council and Settlement Allocation Term Sheet* (Term Sheet) in its entirety, and found that there is a substantial need for repayment of opioid-related expenditures and payment to abate opioid-related harms in and about Fort Worth.

On March 1, 2023, the City received the first settlement payment from the Opioid Abatement Fund Council in the amount of \$665,760.73 and approved use of the funds with Mayor & Council Communication (M&C) 23-0255 on April 11, 2023. The Neighborhood Services Department (NSD) was designated as the lead department to oversee allocation and use of these funds. The first round of Opioid Abatement Funds were awarded to the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth Health Systems (HSC) and My Health My Resources of Tarrant County (MHMR) through a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process, and to the Fort Worth Fire Department (FWFD) through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). These one-year awards were approved through M&C 23-1051.

On April 16, 2024, the City received its second settlement payment from the Opioid Abatement Fund Council in the amount of \$129,518.88. On April 10, 2025, the City received its third settlement payment from the Opioid Abatement Fund Council in the amount of \$631,860.97. The second and third settlement payments totaling \$761,379.85 need to be appropriated to increase the receipts and appropriations in the Grants Operating Other Fund for the purpose of allowable expenses related to core strategies and broader approved uses as provided by the Texas Opioid Abatement Fund Council for the Texas Opioid Abatement Fund project (City Project No. 104782).

In addition, in January 2025, NSD and FWFD staff mutually agreed to amend their MOU and reduce the allocation to FWFD from \$157,500.00 to \$59,640.48 due to external factors that affected the pace of fund expenditure. This brought the balance remaining from the first settlement to \$97,859.52.

The total amount of available funds from the Texas Opioid Abatement Fund Council is \$859,239.37. This figure represents the total of the remaining unallocated balance of the first settlement, the second settlement, and the third settlement.

Settlement Received	Funds Received	Funds Expended	Funds Remaining
#1-March 1, 2023	\$665,760.73	\$567,901.21	\$97,859.52
#2- April 16, 2024	\$129,518.88	\$0.00	\$129,518.88
#3-April 10, 2025	\$631,860.97	\$0.00	\$631,860.97
Total:	\$1,427,140.58	\$567,901.21	\$859,239.37

A Request for Proposals (RFP) from nonprofit and social service agencies and City departments offering similar direct social services to respond for the intervention, prevention, and treatment of opioid use disorder (OUD) and any co-occurring Substance Use Disorder or Mental Health (SUD/MH) conditions through evidence-based or evidence-informed programs or activities was published on March 10, 2025. To notify potential applicant staff provided the information to the public via emails sent to community partners on March 3, 2025, an information session held in person at the Mental Health Connections Meeting on March 3, 2025, a virtual information session held on March 18, 2025, and through a Public Notice that was published on the City of Fort Worth's Neighborhood Services Department website from March 3, 2025 through March 31, 2025.

This program is named Interventions Of Opioid Use (IOU). All proposals were received by March 31, 2025. Staff reviewed one (1) proposal and developed recommendations for allocation of funding based on the capacity of applicant organization and the amount of funds they requested.

Eligible activities under this RFP included but were not limited to:

- Intervention
- Prevention
- Treatment
- Anything listed as eligible in Exhibit E-List of Opioid Remediation Uses (attached)

FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Neighborhood Services Department staff recommends that funding consisting of the combined unallocated balance from the first settlement and the full balance from the second settlement—totaling \$227,156.00— be allocated as shown in the below table and contracts be executed with the organization listed. The third settlement will be distributed through a RFP which will be released at a later date.

AGENCY NAME	PROGRAM NAME	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT	RECOMMENDED FUNDING AMOUNT
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT FORT WORTH HEALTH SYSTEMS	SaferCare Texas	Community-based intervention operating as the SaferCare Texas program with clinical executives comprised of nurses and nurse practitioners to distribute 250 naloxone kits and 500 drug disposal bags including 10 organizational readiness kits accompanied by educational training of trainers among Fort Worth based organizations and groups who primarily serve mothers and families and respond to this opportunity. This proposed program is an eligible activity for the use of the Texas Opioid Abatement Fund per the List of Opioid Remediation Uses attached.	\$227,156.00	\$227,156.00
TOTAL				\$227.156.00

The Agreement with the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth Health Systems will be for one year, beginning upon execution. The Agreement may be extended for up to one year if the agency requests an extension and such extension is necessary for completion of the program.

This program is available in ALL COUNCIL DISTRICTS.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that funds are available in the current operating budget, as previously appropriated, in the Grants Operating Other Fund for the TX Opioid Abatement Fund project to support the approval of the above recommendations and execution of contract, and that upon adoption of the attached appropriation ordinance, funds will be available in the current operating budget, as appropriated, in the Grants Operating Other Fund for the TX Opioid Abatement Fund project. Prior to any expenditure being incurred, the Neighborhood Services Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds.

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