



Legislation Text

File #: 24-2369, **Version:** 1

Department: Purchasing

Department Head/Elected Official: DeWight Dopslauf

Regular or Supplemental RCA: Regular RCA

Type of Request: Contract - Award

Project ID (if applicable): 230497

Vendor/Entity Legal Name (if applicable): Alliance of Community Assistance Ministries, Inc.

MWDBE Contracted Goal (if applicable): N/A

MWDBE Current Participation (if applicable): N/A

Justification for 0% MWDBE Participation Goal: 0% - Non-Divisible

Request Summary (Agenda Caption):

Request for approval of an award on the basis of best proposal meeting requirements and that the County Judge execute an agreement with Alliance of Community Assistance Ministries, Inc. for community enrollment outreach for Public Safety-Net Benefits for the Department of Economic Equity and Opportunity for the period of April 23, 2024 - December 31, 2026 and for the County Clerk to execute any applicable bonds to be received (230497), Justification for 0% MWDBE Participation Goal: 0% - Non-Divisible.

Background and Discussion:

Despite the need for and positive impact associated with public safety net programs, Harris County has significant gaps in participation for available programs. As an example, some estimates find that 105,000 - 110,000 Harris County children are likely eligible but unenrolled for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and that 85,000 Harris County residents are eligible but not enrolled in Texas Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Other estimates find that nearly 500,000 Harris County residents are eligible for some type of benefit, but are not enrolled, and that there may be up to \$1 Billion in unclaimed benefits in the region.

To increase participation in safety net and publicly funded safety-net programs, Harris County is interested in contracting with the Alliance of Community Assistance Ministries (ACAM) to operate and administer a large-scale enrollment drive program in the County. Through the program, ACAM will serve as a grantmaking intermediary for Harris County, making grants to local 501c3 organizations towards the goal of enrolling 1000 eligible residents in public benefits programs. A secondary goal of the program is to increase the capacity of local organizations to continue to enroll Harris County residents after the program funds expire.

Expected Impact:

Helping hands will support the enrollment of 1000 eligible families and children in public safety-net benefits programs. The program will also increase local organizational knowledge and capacity.

Alternative Options:

Harris County could opt to forgo the investment in the Helping Hands program, reinvesting these ARPA funds in other areas.

Alignment with Goal(s):

- ☐ Justice and Safety
- ☒ Economic Opportunity
- ☐ Housing
- ☐ Public Health
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Flooding
- ☐ Environment
- ☐ Governance and Customer Service

Prior Court Action (if any):

Date	Agenda Item #	Action Taken
01/09/24	170	Advertisement Approved

Location: N/A

Address (if applicable): N/A

Precinct(s): Countywide

Fiscal and Personnel Summary

Service Name				
	Current Fiscal Year Cost			Annual Fiscal Cost
	Labor	Non-Labor	Total	Recurring Expenses

Funding Sources**Existing Budget**

Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Current Budget	\$	\$	\$	\$

Additional Budget Request (*Requires Fiscal Review Request Form*)

2651 - American Rescue Plan 2021	\$	\$2,302,083	\$2,302,083	\$125,000
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Additional Budget Request	\$	\$2,302,083	\$2,302,083	\$125,000
Total Funding Request	\$	\$2,302,083	\$2,302,083	\$125,000

Personnel (Fill out section only if requesting new PCNs)

Current Position Count for Service	-	-	-	-
Additional Positions Request	-	-	-	-
Total Personnel	-	-	-	-

Anticipated Court Date: 04/23/24

Anticipated Implementation Date (if different from Court date): N/A

Emergency/Disaster Recovery Note: Not an emergency, disaster, or COVID-19 related item

Contact(s) name, title, department: Don Titcombe, Associate Director, DEEO; Jeremy Woodard, Sourcing Manager, Purchasing

Attachments (if applicable): Letter