



Legislation Text

File #: 24-2275, **Version:** 1

Department: Public Health Services

Department Head/Elected Official: Barbie L. Robinson, MPP, JD, CHC – Executive Director

Regular or Supplemental RCA: Regular RCA

Type of Request: Contract - Award

Project ID (if applicable): N/A

Vendor/Entity Legal Name (if applicable): GiveDirectly, Inc.

MWDBE Contracted Goal (if applicable): N/A

MWDBE Current Participation (if applicable): N/A

Justification for 0% MWDBE Participation Goal: N/A - Goal not applicable to request

Request Summary (Agenda Caption):

Request for approval of a Data Sharing Agreement with GiveDirectly, Inc. to exchange data for developing, implementing, enhancing, and improving the Uplift Harris Guaranteed Income Pilot Program, a program designed to provide income to meet basic needs to low-income families who experienced economic fallout and financial challenges in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, at no cost to the county to begin on April 23, 2024 and end on December 31, 2025.

Background and Discussion:

On July 20, 2021, the Harris County Commissioners Court unanimously passed a resolution to create the countywide initiative Accessing Coordinated Care and Empowering Self Sufficiency Harris County (ACCESS Harris County) as part of its overall strategic priorities to strengthen service delivery to support the County's most vulnerable, high needs residents to achieve self-sufficiency, recovery, and well-being. The initiative will achieve this objective by identifying vulnerable county residents who are experiencing a myriad of challenges related to social, economic, health and behavioral health, substance use, unemployment, community/individual violence issues, and criminal justice involvement and will work to provide the help they need. ACCESS Harris County is an integrated, care-coordination model that works across County safety net departments and community-based organizations to establish multidisciplinary or care coordination teams. These teams are designed to deliver coordinated and integrated services across systems and programs that focus on supporting a client holistically, addressing multiple needs that ensure better outcomes and greater stability.

This agreement enables bidirectional data exchange between GiveDirectly and HCPH, including data on participants interested in the storytelling cohort led by HCPH. We will ensure respectful handling of participant information in accordance with privacy regulations and best practices, including obtaining consent prior to sharing data. Additionally, participants will be asked to consent separately by Public Health once they opt-in.

Expected Impact:

This project seeks to begin data-sharing services between Give Directly Inc. and Harris County Public Health to enable the development, enhancement, and improvement of cash transfers to participants over the course of 18 months. Through this data-sharing agreement GiveDirectly Inc. and Harris County Public Health will take part in data processing/sharing/transfer in order to:

- Greatly enhance the development, implementation, and refinement of the Uplift Guaranteed Income Pilot Program, ultimately leading to more effective support for participants.
- Incorporate a storytelling cohort that can amplify participants' voices, providing invaluable insights into their experiences and needs.
- Foster a deeper understanding among stakeholders, cultivate empathy, and inform more inclusive programmatic decisions.

Overall, the collaboration is positioned to drive meaningful change by leveraging both data-driven approaches and the human stories behind them.

Alternative Options:

N/A

Alignment with Goal(s):

X Justice and Safety
X Economic Opportunity
X Housing
X Public Health
_ Transportation
_ Flooding
_ Environment
_ Governance and Customer Service

Prior Court Action (if any):

Date	Agenda Item #	Action Taken
07/20/2021	384	ACCESS Harris funding approved
10/10/2023	409	GiveDirectly, Inc. agreement to serve as Program Administrator for Uplift Harris approved

Location:

Address (if applicable): N/A

Precinct(s): Countywide

Fiscal and Personnel Summary

Service Name	
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	FY 24	FY 25	Next 3 FYs
Incremental Expenditures (do NOT write values in thousands or millions)			
Labor Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
Non-Labor Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
Total Incremental Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
Funding Sources (do NOT write values in thousands or millions)			
Existing Budget			
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
Total Current Budget	\$	\$	\$
Additional Budget Requested			
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
Total Additional Budget Requested	\$	\$	\$
Total Funding Sources	\$	\$	\$
Personnel (Fill out section only if requesting new PCNs)			
Current Position Count for Service	-	-	-
Additional Positions Requested	-	-	-
Total Personnel	-	-	-

Anticipated Court Date: April 23, 2024

Anticipated Implementation Date (if different from Court date): April 23, 2024

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

Contact(s) name, title, department: Dr. Jamie Hughes, Director of ACCESS Harris County, Public Health Services

Attachments (if applicable): Data Sharing Agreement