



Hidalgo County • Department of Budget & Management
American Rescue Plan Act 2021

Agenda Item Briefing
Commissioners Court - December 14, 2021

AI Number: 83773

Project Name: Assistance to Hope Clinic

Project Number: ARPA-21-110-032

Project Department Name: Budget & Management

Funding Source: American Rescue Plan Act Relief Funds 1-1290-441-06-115-225-1-XXX

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Department: Budget & Management

Background Information

On May 10, 2021, the U.S. the Department of the Treasury announced the launch of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, to provide \$350 billion in emergency funding for state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments. The bill allows governments to provide funding to nonprofit clinics to serve Hidalgo County's vulnerable communities.

Impoverished and vulnerable populations in Hidalgo County are experiencing evident health disparities due to the ongoing public health emergency. The Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act Primary Medical Care and Behavioral Health Program will execute strategies to slow the spread of COVID-19 by supporting nonprofit clinics that serve the most vulnerable communities. For instance, vulnerable Hidalgo County residents have relied on clinics, such as the HOPE Clinic, for high quality healthcare services.

Compliance

The Memorandum of Understanding has been made in compliance with the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Interim Final Rules issued by the U.S. Treasury, which allows the use of American Rescue Plan Act funds for the purpose of supporting the public health response by aiding nonprofit entities that have been hit particularly hard by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Administration

Approval of the item is consistent with Hidalgo County's intended purpose of mitigating the spread of COVID-19. The goal is to provide efficient and effective delivery of services in light of changes in technology, the public's expectations, the area's population and economy. Hidalgo County is taking the lead in responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency for our community as a whole.



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Agenda Caption

ARPA - American Rescue Plan Act (1290):

- A. Discussion, consideration, and action to approve the use of ARPA Relief Funds for the Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act Primary Medical Care and Behavioral Health Program for the purpose of providing funding to nonprofit health clinics to serve vulnerable communities of Hidalgo County.
- B. Discussion, consideration and action to approve the following project under the Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act Primary Medical Care and Behavioral Health Program.
 1. Assistance to Hope Clinic - Project Number: ARPA-21-110-032.
- C. Discussion, consideration, and approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between Community HOPE Projects, Inc. and the County of Hidalgo to provide funding to Community HOPE Projects, Inc. for additional expenses incurred to address the needs of Hidalgo County residents affected by the COVID-19 public health emergency, with authority for the County Judge, as authorized official, to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

Recommendations

The Department of Budget & Management recommends approval of the use of ARPA Relief Funds for the purpose of supporting the public health response to COVID-19 address the negative effects caused by COVID-19 by aiding nonprofit entities that have been hit particularly hard by the COVID-19 pandemic.