

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE August 9, 2024

TO Honorable Chair and Members of the Workforce, Education and Equity Committee

SUBJECT **Upcoming Agenda Item from Office of Community to Accept a Grant from Texas Department of State Health Services for the Texas Lactation Support After-Hours Hotline**

On August 14, 2024, the following Office of Community Care agenda item will be considered by City Council:

File ID: 24-2301: Authorize the **(1)** acceptance of a grant from Texas Department of State Health Services for the Texas Lactation Support After-Hours Hotline Grant (Contract No. HHS001465500001) in the amount of \$400,000.00 to fund after-hours lactation support services for the Women, Infants, and Children Program for the period September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2025; **(2)** receipt and deposit of grant funds in the Texas Lactation Support After-Hours Hotline Fund; **(3)** establishment of appropriations in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.00 for Texas Lactation Support After-Hours Hotline Fund; and **(4)** execution of the grant agreement with Texas Department of State Health Services and all terms, conditions, and documents required by the agreement, approved as to form by the City Attorney – Not to exceed \$400,000.00 – Financing FY25 Texas Lactation Support After-Hours Hotline Fund

Background

This item authorizes the acceptance of \$400,000.00 to manage and support the Texas Lactation Support After-Hours Hotline (TSLAH). The TSLAH is a no-fee assistance service for lactating mothers to receive assistance and support. TSLAH services include after-hours lactation support, triage, referral, resource sharing and the provision of general and clinical breastfeeding information through telephone counseling provided by International Board-Certified Lactation Consultants (IBCLCs). Services can be offered in multiple languages.

This type of lactation support is widely accepted as an effective strategy to promote positive health outcomes for both mothers and their babies. The purpose of this partnership is to provide high-quality access to after- hour support services in order to address common barriers to breastfeeding and to promote higher breastfeeding rates and exclusivity, over longer periods of time. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's most recent Breastfeeding Report Card, 85.9% of Texas babies born in 2017 were ever breastfed. However, that rate significantly declines to 55.1% at 6 months and 31.3% at 12 months. Additionally, the number of Breastfed infants receiving formula before 2 days of age is 22.5%, almost a quarter of the population (CDC 2020). Data from

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Pacify, an established provider of these services, shows that this type of support contributes to a 13% increase in prenatal visits and a 23% increase in postpartum care.

The funding awarded will enable the Dallas WIC program to enter an agreement with a vendor to provide these services, which serve as a compliment to lactation and breastfeeding support services that are provided in WIC clinics, thus making this important support available and accessible 24-hours per day, 7 days per week.

Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact myself or Jessica Galleshaw, Director of Office of Community Care, at 214-670-5113 or Jessica.Galleshaw@dallascityhall.com.



M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira
Assistant City Manager

C:

Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, City Manager (I)
Tammy Palomino, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Dominique Artis, Chief of Public Safety (I)
Dev Rastogi, Assistant City Manager

Alina Ciocan, Assistant City Manager
Donzell Gipson, Assistant City Manager (I)
Robin Bentley, Assistant City Manager (I)
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
Elizabeth Saab, Chief of Strategy, Engagement, and Alignment (I)
Directors and Assistant Directors