Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

Meeting Date: January 28, 2014

Prepared By/Phone Number: Juanita Jackson/854-4467

Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head: Sherri E. Fleming, County Executive for Health and Human Services and Veterans Service

Commissioners Court Sponsor: Judge Samuel T. Biscoe

AGENDA LANGUAGE:
Receive Briefing from Health & Human Services on the Healthy Families Travis County Accreditation and Recertification Program and Take Appropriate Action.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:
See attached memo

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:
See attached memo

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:
See attached memo

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:
No fiscal impact

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:
Mary Etta Gerhardt, Assistant County Attorney'
Leslie Browder, County Executive, Planning and Budget Office
Cyd Grimes, CPM, Travis County Purchasing Agent
Nicki Riley, CAP, CMA, Travis County Auditor
Patty Lennon, Financial Analyst, Travis County Auditor's Office
Aerin Toussaint, Analyst, Planning and Budget Office
Sherri Fleming, County Executive, HHSVS

AGENDA REQUEST DEADLINE: All agenda requests and supporting materials must be submitted as a pdf to the County Judge's office, agenda@co.travis.tx.us **by Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m.** for the next week's meeting.

healthy families travis county

I am pleased to share that Healthy Families Travis County (HFTC) has been re-accredited through December 2017 and recognized as a provider of high quality home visiting services. HFTC has demonstrated fidelity to the Healthy Families America (HFA) model and its Best Practice Standards.

HFTC is a voluntary, home-visiting program for overburdened parents and their families who are at risk for adverse childhood experiences. The goals for this child abuse prevention program include:

- To cultivate nurturing parent-child relationships,
- To promote healthy childhood growth and development,
- To enhance family functioning by reducing risk and building protective factors, and
- To assist families with community resources and referrals

HFTC has been nationally accredited by Healthy Families America and Prevent Child Abuse America since 2004. HFTC was the first program in Texas (and now one of only three programs) to be awarded this honor for its adherence to best practices. The accreditation process is based upon a stringent set of 12 critical elements grounded in more than 30 years of research. The process involves an in-depth examination of the site's operation, as well as the quality of the visits made by HFA home visitors.

Healthy Families America is a nationally recognized evidence-based home visiting program model. It is the primary home visiting model best equipped to work with families who may have histories of trauma, intimate partner violence, mental health and/or substance abuse issues. The HFA model was developed in 1992 by Prevent Child Abuse America. Model fidelity is illustrated through a comprehensive accreditation process. To date, research and evaluation indicates impressive outcomes. Reviews of more than 15 evaluation studies of HFA programs in 12 states produced the following outcomes:

- Reduced child maltreatment;
- Increased utilization of prenatal care and decreased pre-term, low weight babies;
- Improved parent-child interaction and school readiness;
- Decreased dependency on welfare, or TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) and other social services;
- Increased access to primary care medical services; and
- Increased immunization rates.

HFTC produced the following outcomes in 2013:

- 193 families received home visiting services
- 100% of families had NO substantiated child abuse or neglect
- 100% of children and parents had established health care providers
- 92% of children had age-appropriate immunizations
- 92% of children achieved age appropriate development

Prevent Child Abuse America

228 South Wabash Avenue
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Chicago, IL 60604
312.663.3520 *tel*
312.939.8962 *fax*
www.preventchildabuse.org

December 16, 2013

Corie Cormie, LCSW
Healthy Families Travis County
Travis Co. Health & Human Services
PO Box 1748
Austin, TX 78767

Dear Corie:

It is with great pleasure that we inform you that the Healthy Families Travis County site has been accredited by Healthy Families America as a provider of high quality HFA home visiting services. This accreditation is effective through December, 2017.

The Healthy Families America (HFA) accreditation process is designed to identify individual sites and multi-site systems that have achieved high standards for performance and a commitment to quality. HFA is proud to grant Healthy Families Travis County accreditation.

Prevent Child Abuse America is honored to be associated with you and your colleagues. We wish you the very best in your continuing service to families in your community.

Congratulations on your achievement!

James M. Hmurovich
President & CEO

Cydney M. Wessel, MSW
National Director of Healthy Families America

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Bill Cosby, Ed.D.
Bob Costas
Tommie Harris
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Todd Jacobson
Laura Johnston
Susan Kelley
Felicia Kolodner
Beth Langford
LoriAnn Lowery-Biggers
Luke Marklin
Fred Riley
Andrea Robertson
David Rudd
Debbie Snyder
Bryan Specht
John Suk
Beatrice Yorker
Juliana Zoto

President & CEO
James M. Hmurovich

Mission Statement

To prevent the abuse and neglect of our nation's children.

Certificate of Accreditation

This certifies that

Healthy Families Travis County

has demonstrated fidelity to the

Healthy Families America model

and its Best Practice Standards.

This accreditation is effective through

December 2017

President and CEO
Prevent Child Abuse America

healthy families america®

National Director
Healthy Families America