



CITY OF LONG BEACH

C-10

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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March 21, 2017

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute an agreement, and any subsequent amendments, with the March of Dimes California Chapter, to continue the Destined for Greatness Program and accept grant funding in an amount not to exceed \$26,492, for the period of March 1, 2017 through February 28, 2018. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

On January 6, 2015, the City Council authorized an agreement with the March of Dimes California Chapter (March of Dimes) to accept funding in the amount of \$42,239 to implement the Destined for Greatness Program (Program), specifically developed for African-American women who are at high-risk of depression, chronic disease, and premature or low birth weight deliveries. On November 17, 2015, the March of Dimes provided an additional \$41,699, to support year two of the Program.

Rates of premature deliveries in African-American women are nearly 30 percent higher than that of the general population. The statistics are similar for low birth weight babies. Both of these conditions greatly increase the risk of developmental disabilities, health problems, and premature death. Stress is thought to be a significant contributor to poor birth outcomes in this population. This Program offers a series of four, six-week stress reduction/relaxation classes designed for participants in the Black Infant Health (BIH) Program, as well as other African-American women who are not BIH-eligible but who are at risk of poor birth outcomes due to extreme stressors in their lives, such as homelessness, depression, domestic violence, and race-related stressors (stereotyping, discrimination, racism).

The March of Dimes has now awarded the City \$26,492 for the Health and Human Services Department (Health Department) to continue the Program for a third year. The Program is aimed at decreasing depression and increasing positive coping skills, such as physical activity, to positively impact mental health, chronic disease prevention, and healthy birth outcomes.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Linda T. Vu on March 1, 2017 and by Budget Management Officer Rhutu Amin Gharib on March 6, 2017.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action on this item is requested on March 21, 2017, to continue to provide services and meet required program objectives.

FISCAL IMPACT

The City is eligible to receive reimbursement up to \$26,492 for the grant period of March 1, 2017 through February 28, 2018. Sufficient appropriation is budgeted in the Health Fund (SR 130) in the Health and Human Services Department (HE). No match or in-kind service mandate is required, and there is no local job impact associated with this recommendation.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



KELLY COLOPY
DIRECTOR
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

APPROVED:


PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER