

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE October 18, 2019

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Upcoming Agenda Item #23, October 23, 2019 – Senior Dental Program**

The following Office of Community Care (OCC) item will be considered by City Council on the October 23, 2019 Agenda:

Authorize a one-year interlocal agreement with Texas A&M University College of Dentistry to administer the Clinical Dental Care Services Program, to provide dental health services to low-to-moderate income seniors 60 and older residing in the city of Dallas for the period of January 1, 2020 – September 30, 2020 – Not to exceed \$370,000.00 – Financing: General Fund

The Senior Affairs Commission advocates for senior dental care as low-income seniors and seniors on fixed income are often unable to afford private dental care, but Medicare does not typically cover dental care services for seniors. Providers of dental services to low-income seniors state that they frequently encounter patients who have not been seen by a dentist in over 20 years, resulting in severe dental disease. The Senior Dental Program is likely the only option for many Dallas residents and the County does not provide these services.

The lack of proper dental care can lead to other health issues and advancing age puts senior residents at risk for oral health conditions. In addition to dental health, dental care appointments provide an opportunity to identify signs of other health issues in patients such as high blood pressure, diabetes and heart disease. In cases like these, the Clinical Dental Care Services Program provider, Texas A&M College of Dentistry (TAMCOD), is able to refer patients for low-cost medical services near the dental clinics.

TAMCOD's mission is to improve the oral health of Texans and shape the future of dentistry by (1) Developing exemplary clinicians, educators, and scientists; (2) Caring for the needs of a diverse community, and; (3) Serving as a leader in health professions education, and seeking innovations in science, education, and health care delivery. Through the Clinical Dental Services Program with the City of Dallas, TAMCOD will primarily provide the dental services for seniors at their North Dallas Shared Ministries (NDSM) located at 2875 Merrell Road, Dallas Texas 75229 and Agape Clinic (Agape) located at 4104 Junius Street, Dallas, Texas 75246. Beginning in 2020, TAMCOD will begin providing dental services at a new location, South Dallas Dental Clinic (South Dallas) at Hatcher Station Village, 4542 Scyene Road, Dallas, Texas 75210. This will increase the capacity to serve more seniors with the three locations geographically distributed for seniors to access clinical dental services. NDSM is convenient and accessible for patients from northwest Dallas including Love Field, Stemmons Corridor, and West Dallas communities. Agape is convenient and accessible for patients from East Dallas, and the South Dallas location will be convenient and accessible for patients from the South Dallas, Fair Park, Pleasant Grove and East Oak Cliff communities. These locations are accessible by public transit including buses and light rail stations. They will provide basic dental health services, including exams, cleanings, fluoride treatment, sealants, fillings, extractions, root canals, treatment for infections, oral health education and partial and full dentures to seniors aged 60 and older residing within the City of Dallas.

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TAMCOD anticipates providing 3,000 patient visits with 6,000 dental procedures to 1,700 patients, attributable to the City's funding.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact myself or Jessica Galleshaw, Director of Office of Community Care.



Nadia Chandler Hardy
Assistant City Manager and Chief Resilience Officer

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney (Interim)
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Bilierae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager

Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Michael Mendoza, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
Laila Alequresh, Chief Innovation Officer
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion
Directors and Assistant Directors