



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:15-1125

Agenda Item Number: 28.

Agenda Date: 2/12/2015

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Health

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Dr. Thomas L. Schlenker

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: City Wide

SUBJECT:

Authorizing an Agreement with the Regents of the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center

SUMMARY:

This Ordinance authorizes an affiliation agreement with the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center (UNMHSC) College of Nursing so that the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health) may serve as a field placement site and host an intern working on a PhD in Nursing with a Health Policy concentration to provide a practical public health experience for a period ending May 9, 2015. There will be no clinical involvement of the student at any of Metro Health's clinics merely observation.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The UNMHSC College of Nursing offers its students a program in the field of health policy development and wishes to provide students enrolled in the program with practical and didactic exposure to health policy development through this agreement with Metro Health. Providing exposure of ongoing public health activities to health profession students will be beneficial to both the student and Metro Health. Public health strategy experience will include describing how the immunization registry can improve immunization rates from an "opt in" to an "opt out" program; prioritizing areas of focus and strategies which vaccination advocates can implement to increase vaccinations in children; and communicating the effectiveness of Syphilis testing at initial medical visits and during the third trimester.

ISSUE:

Metro Health is requesting that City Council authorize an affiliation agreement with UNMHSC in order to provide students with opportunities to acquire specific skills and knowledge through experience in health policy development.

ALTERNATIVES:

If the agreement is not authorized, Metro Health will forgo an opportunity to host an intern as a field placement site for a student working on a PhD in Nursing with a Health Policy concentration.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact to the City. Metro Health will use existing resources to provide the required office space, equipment and associated project-based support, supervisory and mentoring time, and assessment of the intern's professional development.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of an Ordinance authorizing an agreement with the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center to provide experience in health policy development to the College of Nursing.