

STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Human and Social Needs

AGENDA DATE: May 9, 2018

COUNCIL DISTRICT(S): All

DEPARTMENT: Office of Community Care

CMO: Nadia Chandler Hardy, 671-9195

MAPSCO: N/A

SUBJECT

Authorize an Interlocal Agreement with the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center on behalf of St. Paul University Hospital to provide guidance and assistance to routine postpartum women who are breastfeeding for the period March 1, 2018 through February 28, 2019 - Financing: No cost consideration to the City

BACKGROUND

The City of Dallas Office of Community Care, Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program currently provides guidance and assistance to routine postpartum women who are breastfeeding and who have infants in the St. Paul University Hospital Newborn Nursery. This Interlocal Agreement will authorize the WIC Program breastfeeding peer counselors and lactation consultants to provide opportunities for women eligible for or enrolled in WIC to receive breastfeeding support in St. Paul University Hospital.

The WIC Program breastfeeding peer counselors and lactation consultants have provided breastfeeding information and support to postpartum patients in St. Paul University Hospital since 2013. As a result of community collaborations such as this, the breastfeeding initiation rate of mothers enrolled in WIC is 95%. This is above the Healthy People 2020 Health Objectives to increase at 82% the proportion of mothers who breastfeed their babies in the early postpartum period.

The health benefits of breastfeeding infants during hospital stays are well documented. The colostrum in mothers' breastmilk stimulates infants' gastrointestinal maturation and facilitates digestion. Colostrum also provides the babies' "first immunizations" by immediately protecting the infants from disease and boosting their immune systems.

Research clearly indicates that hospital practices such as separation of mother and infant and delay in getting the baby to the breast following birth have negative effects on successful breastfeeding.

BACKGROUND (continued)

The WIC Program breastfeeding peer counselors and lactation consultants in St. Paul University Hospital help to create environments that facilitate breastfeeding. They offer new mothers information to get breastfeeding off to a good start, tips on increasing milk supply, and address breastfeeding concerns.

PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (COUNCIL, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS)

Information about this item will be provided to the Human and Social Needs Committee on May 7, 2018.

FISCAL INFORMATION

No cost consideration to the City.

May 9, 2018

WHEREAS, the City of Dallas is a Texas municipal corporation of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center is a political subdivision of the State of Texas, which furnishes medical aid and hospital care to indigent and needy persons residing in the hospital district; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code permits two governmental agencies to contract with each other to perform governmental functions and services; and

WHEREAS, the City and the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center on behalf of St. Paul University Hospital desire to enter into an Interlocal Agreement to provide guidance and assistance to routine postpartum women who are breastfeeding for the period March 1, 2018 through February 28, 2019.

Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALLAS:

SECTION 1. That the City Manager is hereby authorized to sign an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center on behalf of St. Paul University Hospital, approved as to form by the City Attorney, to provide guidance and assistance to routine postpartum women who are breastfeeding for the period March 1, 2018 through February 28, 2019; and execute any and all documents required by the ILA.

SECTION 2. That this contract is designated as Contract No. MGT-2018-00004805.

SECTION 3. That this resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Dallas, and it is accordingly so resolved.