



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** 7/23/2024

**REQUESTER:** AshLynn Wilkerson, Assistant City Attorney

**PRESENTER:** Rick Knighton, Interim City Attorney

**ITEM TITLE:** CONSIDERATION OF ACCEPTANCE, APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA BY AND THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND THE OKLAHOMA OPIOID ABATEMENT BOARD (OAB) FOR THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OPIOID ABATEMENT GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$190,000 TO BE USED FOR AN APPROVED OPIOID ABATEMENT PROJECT IN THE CITY OF NORMAN; AND APPROVAL OF CONTRACT K-2425-21 BY AND BETWEEN THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA AND THE CITY OF NORMAN FOR THE OPIOID ABATEMENT GRANT AWARD; APPROVED PROJECT AND BUDGET APPROPRIATION.

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### **BACKGROUND:**

In 2020, the Oklahoma Legislature enacted House Bill 4138, the Political Subdivisions Opioid Abatement Grants Act, creating the Oklahoma Opioid Abatement Board oversight body for the distribution of opioid settlement funds. Section 2 of the Act provides the Legislature's purpose, which is "to promote and protect the health of Oklahomans by using monetary grants to abate the opioid crisis in a comprehensive manner that includes cooperation and collaboration with political subdivisions." 74 O.S. § 30.4. Although the City of Norman did not participate as a litigating party in any of the opioid lawsuits, it is eligible for opioid abatement grants.

On October 10, 2023, the City Council approved Resolution R-2324-71 authorizing the City Manager to submit a letter of intent to submit an application for Opioid Abatement Grant funds.

In early 2024, Staff drafted Request for Proposal RFP-2324-49 seeking proposals for a partnership to assist the City with executing a project pursuant to the approved purposes set forth in the Act (see 74 O.S. §30.5). The Virtue Center was the highest ranking submission and their proposal informed the project submitted to the State in the grant application.

On March 4, 2024, the City Council approved Resolution R-2324-132 authorizing Staff to submit an application for \$190,000 of grant funding for the purpose of funding a partnership with The Virtue Center to implement the qualifying programs and services described in their proposal.

## **DISCUSSION:**

On June 4, 2024, the State provided a Conditional Award of the \$190,000 grant funding for the partnership project with The Virtue Center. To be fully awarded the grant funding, Staff must complete an implementation plan for the project, make revisions to the budget as requested in the conditional award, and register on the State's supplier portal. The City Council must also officially accept the grant award and approve both the agreement between the State and the City and the agreement between the City and The Virtue Center. Staff have already completed the required steps to satisfy the conditional award.

The agreement with the State outlines the responsibilities of both the State and the City. The State is to provide the \$190,000 in grant funding in quarterly installments over the first year of the grant. The City is to carry out the project that was approved by the State on June 4, 2024, and provide quarterly reports of the status and results of the project. The City is to begin performance on the project within sixty days of receipt of the funding from the State. The City must keep the grant funding in a segregated account, which will be the State Grant Reimbursement account (221-331380). The agreement allows for the City to utilize a subcontractor in support of its duties and obligations with State approval—such subcontractor will be The Virtue Center. The term of the agreement will be from the date of execution and will automatically expire on June 30, 2026. Any funds not expended by this date must be returned to the State unless it agrees to an extension for a period not to exceed one year. An appropriation is needed to pay The Virtue Center.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Staff recommends accepting the Political Subdivisions Opioid Abatement Grant conditional award from the State of Oklahoma in the amount of \$190,000 to fund the approved partnership project with The Virtue Center to carry out the approved purposes in the Act.
2. Staff recommends approval of Contract K-2425-21.
3. Staff recommends an appropriation of \$190,000 from Special Grants Fund Balance (Account 22-29000) to State Grants – Professional Services – Other (Account 22122371-44099).