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CITY OF SEATTLE

ORDINANCE _____

COUNCIL BILL _____

..title

AN ORDINANCE relating to contracting by the Human Services Department; adding a new Section 3.20.050 to the Seattle Municipal Code to provide that the Seattle Human Services Department utilize a results-based framework for human service investments; and amending Section 3.20.030 of the Seattle Municipal Code to clarify the duties of the Director of the Human Services Department with respect to contracting for services to carry out department programs.

..body

WHEREAS, the Human Services Department (HSD) implements a Results Based Accountability™ (RBA) framework to design grant programs, establishing six desired results for the City’s investments in human services; and

WHEREAS, the six desired results serve as a basis for identifying specific strategies and activities deployed to achieve the desired results; and

WHEREAS, the providers who are selected by the City to implement these strategies and activities have specific outcomes that measure the quantity, quality, and most importantly, the impact of strategies and activities in achieving the desired results; and

WHEREAS, racial equity is a key element of HSD’s RBA framework, given the disparities that exist for people of color as they relate to poverty, homelessness, unemployment, and health; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2015 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate, in Seattle there are 155,519 households with incomes at or below 50 percent of AMI, and a disproportionate number of these individuals are people of color who face barriers of institutional and structural racism as they seek stability in their lives; and

WHEREAS, to address these inequities, the City’s investments in human services must focus on having a measurable impact on identified racial disparities, including evaluating and

1 addressing institutional policies and practices that perpetuate such overrepresentation;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, HSD began implementing RBA in designing programs in 2014 and will continue to
4 incorporate RBA into all human services investments; and

5 WHEREAS, the Mayor and the City Council affirm HSD’s commitment to RBA to ensure the
6 City’s investments in human services achieve desired results; and

7 WHEREAS, the Mayor and the City Council recognize that when programs focused on
8 particular populations, especially distinct racial, ethnic and cultural groups, are compared
9 to performance standards normed on a wider or majority population, distinct strategies
10 that are effective with the intended population may not be validated as effective in an
11 experimental design evaluation; and

12 WHEREAS, the Mayor and the City Council find that some of the problems that most urgently
13 demand human service solutions involve working with populations that face barriers to
14 engagement and sustained service provision, require more resources per person to
15 accomplish program goals, and may achieve smaller incremental gains per person than
16 populations that do not face similar obstacles, and that programs working effectively with
17 those populations facing increased barriers must not be burdened or discouraged by
18 results-based contracting; NOW, THEREFORE,

19 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:**

20 Section 1. A new Section 3.20.050 of the Seattle Municipal Code is added to Subchapter
21 I of Chapter 3.20 as follows:

22 **3.20.050 Contracts for human services**

23 A. The Human Services Department (Department) shall make investments in human

1 services programs using a Results Based Accountability™ (RBA) framework designed to meet
2 six desired results:

- 3 1. All youth in Seattle successfully transition to adulthood;
- 4 2. All people living in Seattle are able to meet their basic needs;
- 5 3. All people living in Seattle are sheltered;
- 6 4. All people living in Seattle experience moderate to optimum health conditions;
- 7 5. All people living in Seattle are free from violence; and
- 8 6. All older adults experience stable health and are able to age in place.

9 B. The Department shall make investments in human services programs through contracts
10 designed to meet one or more of the six desired results through an RBA framework as follows:

11 1. Investment decisions shall be made using a competitive process, such as a
12 request for proposal (RFP) or request for qualifications (RFQ), to award contracts that include
13 specific, measurable performance indicators and that reflect a commitment to addressing racial
14 disparities.

15 2. When designing strategies for human services programs to be competed for
16 contracts, the Department shall ensure such strategies are informed by evidence-based practice
17 with experimental evidence, applied evidence or culturally responsive evidence; and that when
18 selecting human services programs for contracts, the Department shall include selection criteria
19 that are focused on awarding contracts for programs that provide compelling evidence in support
20 of their effectiveness and for which specific and measurable outcomes have been established.
21 Specific and measurable outcomes can be based on applied evidence or culturally responsive
22 evidence.

1 C. The Director may modify or waive the requirements of subsection 3.20.050.B in any
2 of the following circumstances:

3 1. If necessary to comply with any federal, State, County, or other funding source
4 requirement;

5 2. If a specific program or contracting party is identified in the budget process,
6 provided that the contract amount shall not exceed the Competitive Solicitation Threshold, as
7 defined in Section 20.60.101;

8 3. If the Director determines that an emergency exists that requires immediate
9 contracting for services, or determines that a specific program or service is unique or only
10 available from a sole source, provided that the Director, or the Director's designee, shall
11 document in writing the facts that support the determination; or

12 4. If the Director determines that a new or innovative program exists, subject to
13 appropriation authority, on a pilot basis for a period of up to four years.

14 D. The Department shall ensure that both new and existing programs are subject to
15 rigorous contract oversight review. The Department will report annually to the Seattle City
16 Council on findings from these reviews and how it is incorporating contract review and RBA
17 into process improvements. Programs selected for funding shall align with federal, State, and
18 County strategies and agreements, as applicable.

19 E. Nothing in this Section 3.20.050 shall be interpreted to amend or modify any contract
20 in existence prior to the effective date of the ordinance introduced as Council Bill [REDACTED] or to
21 preclude the Director's authority to add or to remove funding from existing, competitively bid
22 contracts containing performance standards at the Director's discretion. Nothing in this Section
23 3.20.050 shall preclude the Director from awarding a contract based upon a public, competitive

1 solicitation that was released prior to the effective date of the ordinance introduced as Council
2 Bill .

3 Section 2. Section 3.20.030 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance
4 119273, is amended as follows:

5 **3.20.030 Director – Duties ((;))**

6 The Director shall be the head of the Human Services Department, shall be responsible for the
7 administration of the department, and shall:

8 * * *

9 C. Manage the preparation of the proposed annual budget of the Human Services
10 Department, authorize necessary expenditures and enter into contracts for (~~professional and~~
11 ~~expert~~) social and human services programs in accordance with the annual budget and the
12 requirements of this Subchapter I, ((;)) develop and manage programs, and supervise
13 development and maintenance of adequate managerial and accounting systems and procedures;

14 D. Execute, administer, modify, and enforce such agreements and instruments as (~~he or~~
15 ~~she~~) the Director shall deem reasonably necessary to implement programs, as authorized by and
16 consistent with this Subchapter I and all applicable laws and ordinances, as ((he or she)) the
17 Director shall deem appropriate for carrying out the responsibilities, functions, and activities of
18 the Department; apply for grants and donations for departmental programs; and solicit and use
19 volunteer services;

20 * * *

21

1 Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by
2 the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it
3 shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

4 Passed by the City Council the _____ day of _____, 2017,
5 and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this _____ day of
6 _____, 2017.

7 _____
8 President _____ of the City Council

9 Approved by me this _____ day of _____, 2017.

10 _____
11 Tim Burgess, Mayor

12 Filed by me this _____ day of _____, 2017.

13 _____
14 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

15 (Seal)