



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR  
January 30, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager  
Submitted by: Lisa Warhuus, Director, Health, Housing, and Community Services  
Subject: Expenditure Contract: Berkeley Free Clinic for Laboratory Services

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or her designee to execute a contract and any amendments or extensions with the Berkeley Free Clinic (BFC) for laboratory services, in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

General Fund (Fund 011) \$50,000 for this contract is available in the adopted Fiscal Year 2025 budget. \$50,000 annually will also be proposed in the Fiscal Year 2026 and Fiscal Year 2027 budgets.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City has funded laboratory services for reproductive and sexual health services provided by BFC for many years. BFC was founded in 1969 and is an essential safety-net provider of health care services in Berkeley. This contract will reimburse BFC for clinical laboratory expenses up to \$50,000 annually for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027.

BACKGROUND

Fees have never been charged for any services, materials, medications or supplies provided at BFC. BFC's revenue comes solely from individual or organizational donations and government programs. Direct services are provided almost exclusively by volunteer lay health care workers. Volunteers receive extensive and specific training in classroom and clinical settings. Treatments, referrals and guidance are provided in a client-centered and inclusive context.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

The provision of laboratory services by a currently licensed laboratory in good standing ensures that the production of medical and laboratory waste is minimized, and that potential negative impacts from such waste is avoided or mitigated.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

BFC's free health care services for uninsured, disenfranchised, and under-served populations in the City, including reproductive and sexual health services for all genders, support public health goals of improving the health and well-being of the Berkeley community.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Ceasing funding for laboratory services provided by BFC is not recommended because of the likely detrimental impact to health equity.

CONTACT PERSON

Janice Chin, Public Health Division Manager, HHCS (510) 981-5121

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: BERKELEY FREE CLINIC FOR CLINICAL LABORATORY SERVICES

WHEREAS, Berkeley Public Health Division has a longstanding partnership with Berkeley Free Clinic (BFC), providing funding for laboratory services for BFC clients; and

WHEREAS, BFC offers free health care services, provided by volunteer staff, to uninsured, disenfranchised, and under-served populations and is an essential safety-net provider of health care services in Berkeley; and

WHEREAS, BFC's services complement those provided by the City and other community health care providers, and support health equity; and

WHEREAS, funds are available in the Fiscal Year 2025 budget in the Discretionary General Fund (Fund 011).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or her designee is authorized to execute a sole source expenditure contract and any amendments or extensions with the Berkeley Free Clinic (BFC) in General Funds (Fund 011) not to exceed \$150,000 for the period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027 (\$50,000 annually) for the purpose of funding clinical laboratory expenses for BFC clients related to reproductive and sexual health. A record signature copy of said contract to be on file in the office of the City Clerk.

