

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 10/15/24

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 24-0891

LOG NAME: 19FY25 SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMS IN FORT WORTH

SUBJECT

(ALL) Authorize the Execution of Contracts with My Health My Resources of Tarrant County, Recovery Resource Council, Safe Haven of Tarrant County, and The Women's Center of Tarrant County in the Aggregate Amount of \$199,500.00 to Provide Social Service Programs for the Fort Worth Community in Fiscal Year 2025, Find that the Contracts Serve a Public Purpose and that Adequate Controls are in Place

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the execution of contracts with My Health My Resources of Tarrant County, Recovery Resource Council, Safe Haven of Tarrant County, and The Women's Center of Tarrant County in the aggregate amount of \$199,500.00 to provide social service programs for the Fort Worth community in Fiscal Year 2025, find that the contracts serve a public purpose and that adequate controls are in place.

DISCUSSION:

From Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 through Fiscal Year 2023, the City contracted with United Way of Tarrant County (United Way) to administer and distribute these funds to agencies that provide social service programs that meet the City's established criteria. The City made a single payment to the United Way and the United Way had discretion to select the particular agencies and funding amounts subject to the criteria listed below designed to ensure that the funds were used for a public benefit in the Fort Worth community. In exchange for the funds, United Way chose agencies based on these criteria and delivered quarterly reports detailing how the funds were expended by United Way and the chosen agencies. During FY 2024 budget process, the City Council approved financial support for the United Way in the amount of \$199,500.00, which is currently budgeted in the General Fund Budget for Neighborhood Services Department (NSD) in order to fund various agencies and social service programs throughout the City

Following the adoption of the FY24 budget, the leadership teams of United Way and Neighborhood Services met and agreed to return program oversight and contract administration to the City of Fort Worth, specifically NSD, due to administrative capacity in both organizations. In addition, the allocation of funds to support social service programs is in alignment with the current NSD processes to allocate federal grant funds to public service agencies. Following this decision, Neighborhood Services met with the Police Department to discuss the potential alignment with the purpose and procedures of the Community Based Programs grant process. The Police Department agreed to assume oversight of these contracts in order to migrate these agencies to the competitive application process required by Crime Control and Prevention District (CCPD). However, funding is budgeted within the General Fund for the Neighborhood Services Department. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Neighborhood Services and Police Department have the responsibility to validate the availability of funds.

This M&C will enable these agencies sufficient time to complete the CCPD process and be considered by the CCPD Community Based Programs Advisory Board.

Please note: This funding is managed as a grant, however it is not a grant as the funding source comes from the City's General Funds budget.

The following criteria were used to ensure that the chosen agencies serve a public purpose through investing money, expertise, and other resources to improve lives and communities in benefit of the entire Fort Worth community:

- Agencies must have a valid current designation of tax-exempt status under 26 USC 501 from the United States Internal Revenue Service;
- Agencies must have a mission statement and service plan that aligns with public safety;
- Agencies must not engage in inherently religious activities, such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytizing, as a part of the program or services funded by City dollars. Inherently religious activities must be offered separately, in time or location, from the programs, activities, or services supported by City funds;
- Agencies must submit documentation attesting to and demonstrating the entity's capacity to deliver specified services; and
- Agencies must demonstrate via site visits that the nature and performance of the proposed service meets the above-listed criteria.

These contracts will require these funds be used for programming within the City. This allows the City to continue to provide financial assistance to non-profit agencies that offer critical social services for the benefit of the entire Fort Worth community. These programs will provide the public with a clear benefit by providing mentorship and training to children to help ensure they remain in school and by ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of Fort Worth citizens, specifically those who are experiencing or survivors of traumatic events, such as domestic violence and sexual assault. Staff will ensure that proper controls are in place, including reporting requirements and auditing rights. The contract period will be for a one-year term, from October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025, or until the agency secures funding through the CCPD process.

The following chart provides projections for services to be provided by four (4) selected agencies:

AGENCY	AWARD	PROJECTIONS
--------	-------	-------------

My Health My Resources (MHMR) of Tarrant County - Tarrant County Youth Recovery Campus	\$38,250.00	100 teen clients in supportive outpatient services
Recovery Resource Council	\$37,500.00	600 teens with Ground Zero services, including support groups in alternative schools and prevention services in juvenile detention, teen court and other locations; 70% of students report a reduction Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs (ATOD) use and violence or improved decision making, perception of harm related substance use
Safe Haven of Tarrant County	\$67,500.00	1,300 women and child victims of domestic violence; 10,000 calls on the 24-hour crisis hotline; 2,000 hours of volunteer service
The Women's Center of Tarrant County	\$56,250.00	2,000 rape crisis hotline calls; Counseling for 400 survivors of rape at rape exam sites; Counseling for 175 significant others at rape exam site; Clinical counseling for 700; Child sexual abuse prevention training for 20,000 children; Adult sexual abuse prevention training for 1,500 persons; Training and technical assistance for 1,000 criminal justice professionals
TOTAL	\$199,500.00	

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendation and adoption of the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget by the City Council, funds will be available in the Fiscal Year 2025 operating budget, as appropriated, in the General Fund. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Police Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds.

Submitted for City Manager's Office by: Fernando Costa 6122

Originating Business Unit Head: Kacey Bess 8187

Additional Information Contact: Sharon Burkley 5785
Juliet Moses 6203