City of Fort Worth, Texas

# Mayor and Council Communication

**DATE:** 06/14/22 **M&C FILE NUMBER:** M&C 22-0419

LOG NAME: 35FY22 COMMUNITY BASED PROGRAMS - PROGRAM GRANTS ROUND 2

#### **SUBJECT**

(ALL) Authorize Execution of Contracts with AB Christian Learning Center, CASA of Tarrant County, Operation Blue Shield (One Community USA), MHMR Visions, and YMCA of Metropolitan Fort Worth from the Crime Control and Prevention District Community Based Programs Fund in the Total Program Amount of \$1,500,000.00 to Operate Crime Prevention Programming that Benefits Fort Worth Residents

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the execution of contracts with AB Christian Learning Center, CASA of Tarrant County, Operation Blue Shield (One Community USA), MHMR Visions, and YMCA of Metropolitan Fort Worth from the Crime Control and Prevention District Community Based Programs fund in the total program amount of \$1,500,000.00 to operate crime prevention programming that benefits Fort Worth residents.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

Crime Control and Prevention District (CCPD) Community Based Programs provide funding to agencies that are recommended by a selection panel and then approved by the CCPD Board of Directors (Board). This panel consisted of staff and community representatives who evaluated the proposals to ensure minimum qualifications were met and that the proposed projects met one or more of the goals of the Board.

On May 24, 2022, the Board reviewed and approved the recommendation to fund five crime prevention programs. The following programs total \$1,500,000.00 and are funded from the Crime Control and Prevention District Community Based Fund (25100). The five programs will have a contract term of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025 with no renewals.

Funding will be allocated as follows to each agency in Fiscal Year 2022 on a reimbursement basis:

AB Christian Learning Center (\$300,000.00) – Implementing the Summer Reading Program where participants will engage in a Summer Reading Program in Council Districts 5 and 8. Academic performance, explicitly literacy, has shown to be correlated with juvenile crime. There is also a correlation between parental involvement and children's social and academic confidence and skills. In addition to summer reading program, youth will participate in educational sessions that will include guest speakers, college tour field trips, and STEM activities. The parents of the participants will also be engaged in weekly family sessions.

CASA of Tarrant County (\$300,000.00) – Implementing the Aging-Out Prevention and Preparation (APP) program which assists youth at risk of aging out of foster care in all Council Districts. The transition period from aging out of foster care is a critical time as youth are more at risk for engaging in juvenile and gang related crime as a result of lack of social supports. CASA youth will receive social support through an appointed Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer and receive family engagement services that will help guide them through this transition period;

Operation Blue Shield dba One Community USA (\$300,000.00) – Implementing ShopTalk in Council Districts 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9. Participants will consist of owners and customers of minority-owned African-American and Hispanic barbershops with beauty salons in Areas of Concentrated Poverty (ACP). One Community will implement Shop Talk and expand services into existing barbershops across the Fort Worth metroplex to shape up the surrounding communities. The barbershops and salons will be known as safe environments to discuss and resolve social issues to bridge the gap between the Fort Worth Police Department and community members.

MHMR Visions (\$300,000.00) – Implementing the Mental Health Law Liaison Project which targets previously adjudicated and non-adjudicated individuals with mental illness or co-occurring psychiatric and substance use disorders in all Council Districts. The Mental Health Law Liaison will divert these individuals from the criminal justice system into recovery and treatment services. The Mental Health Law Liaison Project will enhance neighborhood safety by reducing the number of mental health crisis calls.

YMCA of Metropolitan Fort Worth (\$300,000.00) – Implementing Y-Achievers in Council District 5, which targets minority and underserved high school students in grades 9 through 12. Programming will reinforce positive attitudes toward education, community involvement, and overall community relationships with law enforcement by offering academic activities, career development, and community service opportunities.

Funding is budgeted in the CCPD Community-Based Programs Department's CCDP Community Based Fund.

## **FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:**

The Director of Finance certifies that funds are available in the current capital budget, as previously appropriated, in the CCPD Community Based Fund for the CCPD Community Based Prgm FY22 project to support the approval of the above recommendation and execution of the contract. Prior to any expenditure being incurred, the Police Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds.

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