

Agenda Report



MEETING DATE: Tuesday, March 19, 2024

TO: City Council

FROM: POLICE CHIEF ZAMORA

THROUGH: CITY MANAGER MENDEZ

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING AN ADDITIONAL \$260,091 IN BHJIS GRANT FUNDS AND APPROVING AMENDED AND NEW CONTRACTS WITH PVPSA, CAB AND MONARCH SERVICES FOR THE MULTI-DISCIPLINARY CRITICAL INCIDENT RESPONSE TEAM

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- 1) Adopt a Resolution accepting and appropriating an additional \$260,091 from the Behavioral Health Justice Intervention Services Grant to support collaborative planning, capacity building, strategic program development and implementation of the Trauma Informed Multi-Disciplinary Critical Incident Response Team (MDT) and extending the term of the grant to March 31, 2025.
- 2) Adopt a Resolution approving a Second Amendment to contract with Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance Program (PVPSA) to support collaborative planning, capacity building, strategic program development and implementation of the Trauma Informed Multi-Disciplinary Critical Incident Response Team (MDT) to extend the term of the contract through March 31, 2025, and increase the contract amount to \$362,418; and appropriating \$139,091 to the Special Grants Fund (0260).
- 3) Adopt a Resolution approving a Second Amendment to contract with Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County, Inc. (CAB) to support collaborative planning, capacity building, strategic program development and implementation of the Trauma Informed Multi-Disciplinary Critical Incident Response Team (MDT) to extend the term of the contract through March 31, 2025, and increase the contract amount to \$202,000; and appropriating \$40,000 to the Special Grants Fund (0260).
- 4) Adopt a Resolution approving a contract with Monarch Services, in an amount of \$50,000 for a term of January 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025, and appropriating such amount to the Special Grants Fund (0260).

BACKGROUND

On April 12, 2022, the City Council adopted the following:

- Resolution No. 69-22 accepting the \$481,327 Behavioral Health Justice Intervention Services (BHJIS) Project Grant from the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for the period of February 15, 2022, through February 14, 2023, to support the implementation of the MDT.
- Resolution No. 70-22, approving a contract between the City of Watsonville and Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County, Inc. a corporation, in the amount of \$150,000 for the implementation of the MDT.
- Resolution No. 71-22, approving a contract between the City of Watsonville and Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance Program, Inc., a corporation, in the amount of \$160,327 to support the implementation of the MDT.

On May 9, 2023, the City Council adopted the following:

- Resolution No. 77-23 accepting an additional \$75,000 in grant funds from the Behavioral Health Justice Intervention Services (BHJIS) Project and extending the term of the contract through December 31, 2023.
- Resolution No. 78-23, approving first amendment to contract with Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance Program, Inc., a corporation, increasing the contract amount by \$63,000 and extending the term through December 31, 2023.
- Resolution No. 79-23, approving first amendment to contract with Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County, Inc. a corporation, increasing the contract amount by \$12,000 and extending the term through December 31, 2023.

DISCUSSION:

Since the implementation of the Trauma Informed Multi-Disciplinary Critical Incident Response Team (MDT), the MDT has been able to address critical intervention points through which individuals with mental and substance use disorders can be diverted from criminal justice involvement. The City and the community partners recognize that the response to these traumatic incidents requires a holistic approach that can only be accomplished through collaboration. The purpose of the MDT is to assess and address trauma and provide linkages to services as needed to those individuals impacted.

In November 2023, BHJIS identified additional funding to support service delivery of existing BHJIS programs engaged in justice interventions. The Watsonville Police Department submitted a funding proposal and received a Notice of Award in January 2024 in the amount of \$260,091. This augmentation of grant funds is to be used to continue work related to the direct services provided by the MDT.

PVPSA and CAB continue to provide direct services to individuals who have been impacted by substance abuse and/or a mental health crisis. The co-response team aims to improve community safety and wellness. The proposed amendments include the following contract changes:

- Extends the existing contracts through March 31, 2025.
- Increases the contract amount for PVPSA by \$139,091.
- Increases the contract amount for CAB by \$40,000.

In addition, Monarch Services has been a program partner since the MDT was

implemented and the grant funder has authorized an allocation of \$50,000 for the term of January 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025, to continue their support in providing crisis intervention services for domestic violence victims. The Watsonville Police Department will also be receiving \$31,000 to support a portion of the salary and benefits of the Program Coordinator assigned to oversee the MDT.

Some of the MDT goals include the following: access to care, with services at the right time, in the right environment, diverted away from the criminal justice system; engagement in whole systems capacity building; and implementation of the Trauma Informed Multi-Disciplinary Critical Team (MDT).

STRATEGIC PLAN:

The recommended actions support the Council's priorities and objectives of:
5-Public Safety
6-Community Engagement & Well-Being

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The BHJIS Grant does not require local match funds and has no financial impact to the general fund.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION:

No reasonable alternatives are known at this time.

ATTACHMENTS AND/OR REFERENCES (If any):

None.