



Legislation Text

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RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES WITH THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT CENTER FOR INVESTMENT IN THE DULUTH COMMUNITY CRISIS RESPONSE PROGRAM FOR 2022-2024

CITY PROPOSAL:

WHEREAS, throughout 2021, a working group of community organizers, organizational stakeholders, and representatives from Saint Louis County, a representative from the City Council, the Administration - including the Duluth Police Department, Duluth Fire Department and the Chief Administrative Officer - have met with the goal of outlining and planning for the establishment of a community crisis response program in the city of Duluth; and

WHEREAS, the Community Crisis Response program is intended to provide consistent and timely, compassionate and non-punitive response to mental health, housing and substance use crises in the Duluth area by expanding the funds available for the existing Crisis Response Team services; and

WHEREAS, the staff and mission of the Community Crisis Response program is intended to represent the race, culture, lived experiences, sexual and gender identity, and socioeconomic status - to the greatest extent possible - of the Duluth community; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Community Crisis Response program to be accessible to all, non-punitive and able to respond independent of law enforcement, medical or specific service providers as appropriate in non-violent, non-medical emergency situations; and

WHEREAS, the Community Crisis Response program is intended to coordinate, respond when appropriate with and learn from existing community service providers, including law enforcement and medical responders; and

WHEREAS, on September 27, 2021, the Duluth City Council passed a maximum levy that included \$600,000 in ongoing funding for an enhanced community crisis response program that - pending 2022 budget adoption - would fund the Community Crisis Response Program; and

WHEREAS, on December 6, 2021, the Duluth City Council passed a resolution authorizing City officials to negotiate a contract with Human Development Center for investment in the Duluth Community Crisis Response program; and

WHEREAS, in Minnesota, crisis response service funding is allocated regionally, with Duluth located in Region 3 within St. Louis County; and

WHEREAS, in the Adult Mental Health Initiative of Region 3 recently completed a Request for Proposals and selected a new vendor for the Duluth-service area and will be entering into a contract for crisis response services with the Human Development Center; and

WHEREAS, supplementing and expanding the existing contract through the investment of these funds - and coordinating this funding with future regional contracts - provides the greatest efficiency, expansion of scope

and return on investment; and

WHEREAS, working in connection and coordination with existing services will increase effectiveness of this program and maximize the impact of the funding on those most in need of the associated services.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the desire of the City to work with the Human Development Center to expand the Crisis Response Team contract to meet the community needs identified through this collaborative process; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proper city officials are hereby authorized to execute an Agreement for Professional Services with the Human Development Center, substantially the same as that attached hereto as Exhibit A, payable from Fund 110-700-1407-5441 (General Fund, Transfers and Other Functions, Miscellaneous, Other Services and Charges.)

FUTHER RESOLVED, that City Officials work with HDC on updates to Exhibit A-1 Scope of Services that adds additional detail on community outreach and an additional performance measure specifically designed to understand the geographic location of calls for service as well as community outreach efforts.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This resolution authorizes a contract with the Human Development Center for 2022, 2023 and 2024 to expand community crisis response services in the City of Duluth.

This resolution and the associated contract allocates the expenditure of \$600,000 from the City of Duluth's 2022 general fund budget specifically intended for enhanced crisis response in Duluth, consistent with the dedicated work of community organizers, existing service providers and city staff and Saint Louis County.

The attached Exhibit A-1 serves as a full scope of work from Human Development Center.