



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 21

Agenda Date: May 2, 2024

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Police Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: William McManus, Chief of Police

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council, Mobile Integrated Health/Mental Health Unit Program for Intensive Care Coordination (PICC) Donation Acceptance

SUMMARY:

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of funds from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC) to the San Antonio Police Department up to the amount of \$409,644.00 for the Program for Intensive Care Coordination (PICC), appropriates funds to be used by the Mental Health Unit of the SAPD. Funds will be used to help improve outpatient services of residents who are repeatedly emergency detained by law enforcement officers and taken to local hospitals due to mental illness. Funding is for the period of January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024. This action also authorizes the in-lieu-of two police officer positions to two sergeant positions that will be assigned to the SACORE Mental Health Response Program.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The STRAC was established to facilitate the development, implementation, and operation of a regional comprehensive trauma and emergency healthcare system based on accepted standards of care to decrease morbidity and mortality. Funds from STRAC are awarded to assist in improving the functionality of emergency agencies in the State of Texas. In 2019, STRAC received funding

for a 6-month pilot program called the Program for Intensive Care Coordination (PICC) from the South Texas Crisis Collaborative (STCC), which is comprised of various healthcare systems and philanthropic organizations to reduce the number of high-volume emergency detentions to local hospitals. Due to the success of the 6-month pilot program, additional funding was provided for calendar years 2020 to 2023, and now again in 2024.

Since the launch of the program in July 2019, 467 individuals have transitioned out of the program. The number of emergency detentions by the SAPD that were routed to local hospitals utilizing STRAC's law enforcement navigation system are as follows:

| Calendar Year | Emergency Detentions |
|---------------|----------------------|
| 2018 | 7,500 |
| 2019 | 8,890 |
| 2020 | 8,900 |
| 2021 | 9,512 |
| 2022 | 9,465 |
| 2023 | 8,833 |

The goal of the PICC is to reduce the number of emergency detentions and hospital costs. This is achieved through intervention. The PICC program utilizes two (2) San Antonio Fire Department (SAFD) Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) paramedics to work side by side with two (2) SAPD Mental Health Unit officers and the Local Mental Health Authority-Center Health Care Services (CHCS) personnel to connect with a high-volume utilizer during the pre and post mental health crisis.

A representative from SAFD, SAPD and the Local Mental Health Authority will initially meet with each new high-volume utilizer to create a care plan for that individual. Once a care plan is developed the PICC team will work to keep the high-volume utilizer out of crisis and in care. MIH and the Mental Health Unit will assist with case management for high volume utilizers who are in need of services.

The PICC team focuses on 100 high volume utilizers, rotating new individuals in as others are successfully discharged from the program. Metrics to identify success include a reduction in emergency detention numbers and reduced hospital costs. In FY 2024 the SA CORE program will expand to provide 24/7 coverage. To provide appropriate supervisor coverage, this action authorizes the in-lieu of two vacant Police Officer positions into two Sergeants.

ISSUE:

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of a contribution from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council (STRAC) in an amount up to \$409,644 to the San Antonio Police Department. These funds will be used to pay for overtime to staff two (48 hour/week) SAPD Mental Health officer positions and one (18 hour/week) SAPD Mental Health Supervisor position, to create the medical and law enforcement aspects of the PICC team. This ordinance also authorizes the addition of two new Sergeant supervisor positions. All SAPD Mental Health officers are trained in Crisis

Intervention and will provide medical assistance/ social assistance/ law enforcement assistance when needed. The PICC team helps the new or existing client in the compliance of that client's personal care plan to decrease the residents who are repeatedly emergency detained and taken to local hospitals.

ALTERNATIVES:

No other funding is currently available for this program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This contribution from the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council (STRAC) to the San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) consists of \$409,644. The corresponding budget to be used by the Mental Health Unit of the SAPD consists of \$409,644 for personnel costs. Funds will be used to help improve outpatient services of residents who are repeatedly emergency detained by law enforcement officers and taken to local hospitals due to mental illness. Funding is for the period of January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024. In FY 2024 the SA CORE program will expand to provide 24/7 coverage. To provide appropriate supervisor coverage, this action authorizes the in-lieu of two vacant Police Officer positions into two Sergeants, funding associated with this in-lieu will come from SAPD's FY 2024 General Fund budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.