

To: Harris County Commissioners Court

Through: Sophie Elsner, Director, HC Pct. 1 Policy Department

Prepared By: Erica Lee Carter, Policy Advisor, Pct. 1 Policy Department

Subject: County Connections Youth Summer Programming Initiative

Project ID (If applicable): N/A

Purpose and Request:

Requests for approval for funding of up to \$712,250 from the COVID Response and Recovery Fund for a County Connections Youth Summer Programs initiative with the Harris County Department of Education for the purpose of supporting youth summer enrichment for school-aged youth across Harris County

Background and Discussion:

See Program Summary

Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Summary			
Expenditures	FY 20-21	FY 21-22 Projected	Future Years Projected [3 additional years]
Service Impacted:			
Existing Budget		0	
Additional Appropriation Requested		712.250	0
Total Expenditures			
Funding Sources			
Existing Department Budget		NA	0
Please Identify Funding Source (General Fund, PIC, Special Revenue, Grant, Etc.)		Response & Recovery	0
General Fund*		0	0
Total Sources		712,250	0

Alternatives:

Harris County has explored possible programs to support school-aged youth to combat the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on learning in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years. While school districts and the City of Houston's City Connections Program provide supports for students during the academic year, the options are more limited in the summer. Numerous mall programs throughout Harris County cannot afford to operate without some form of a subsidy, given the lower revenues (fewer students enrolled) and increased costs of operating during a public health crisis.

Alignment with Strategic Objective:

NA.

Attachments:

Court Letter and Program Summary