



Legislation Text

File #: 22-0245, **Version:** 1

Department: Public Health Services

Department Head/Elected Official: Barbie L. Robinson, MPP, JD, CHC, Executive Director

Regular or Supplemental RCA: Regular RCA

Type of Request: Transmittal

Project ID (if applicable): N/A

Vendor/Entity Legal Name (if applicable): N/A

MWDBE Participation (if applicable): N/A

Request Summary (Agenda Caption):

Transmittal by Public Health Services of a six-month update on the status of developing the Division of Community Health and Violence Prevention Services (CHVPS) and the implementation and administration of its public health Community Violence Interruption Programs and the Holistic Assistance Response Teams (HART) program that provides an alternative response model to non-violent 911 calls.

Background and Discussion:

On June 9, 2020, Harris County Commissioner's Court earmarked \$25 million for criminal justice system while also directing departments to explore creating violence prevention and alternative responder programs such as the HART program. On August 20, 2021, the Commissioner's Court directed Harris County Public Health to establish a new division to implement new and innovative public health approaches that addressed the root causes of violence in order to prevent community violence.

Harris County Public Health has made significant progress in developing these programs including the creation of the divisional structure, programming, staffing, neighborhood selections for the community violence interruption programs, selection of the hospital for the hospital-based violence prevention programming, the selection of a vendor to administer the HART program, collaboration and partnerships, and the overall outreach, education, and communication strategies for the programming.

Expected Impact:

This update will provide the Court with key information regarding the status of the implementation of these programs and the key actions to be taken to launch the programs in Spring 2022. This update will provide the Court with an opportunity to ask questions and provide additional direction to the Department as it moves forward with program implementation.

Alternative Options:

N/A

Alignment with Goal(s):

- ☒ Justice and Safety
- ☐ Economic Opportunity
- ☐ Housing
- ☒ Public Health
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Flooding
- ☐ Environment
- ☐ Governance and Customer Service

Prior Court Action (if any):

Date	Agenda Item #	Action Taken
6/9/20	13	Approval of a study to be conducted by the Justice Administration Department and Commissioners Court's Analyst's Office to analyze the feasibility and cost of a new county level agency or program to administer violence interruption programs
5/25/21	157	Transmittal of an update on projects assigned to the Justice Administration Department in June 2020 following the death of George Floyd
8/10/21	352	Approved to advertise Request for Proposal for holistic assistance response team services for Public Health Services
8/10/21	387	Violence interruption program based in community and hospital settings approved to be housed within Harris County Public Health

Location:

Address (if applicable):

Precinct(s): Countywide

Fiscal and Personnel Summary			
Service Name			
	FY 21-22	FY 22	Next 3 FYs
Incremental Expenditures (do NOT write values in thousands or millions)			
Labor Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
Non-Labor Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
Total Incremental Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
Funding Sources (do NOT write values in thousands or millions)			
Existing Budget			
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$

Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Total Current Budget	\$	\$	\$
Additional Budget Requested			
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Total Additional Budget Requested	\$	\$	\$
Total Funding Sources	\$	\$	\$
Personnel (Fill out section only if requesting new PCNs)			
Current Position Count for Service	-	-	-
Additional Positions Requested	-	-	-
Total Personnel	-	-	-

Anticipated Implementation Date: January 4, 2022

Emergency/Disaster Recovery Note: Not an emergency, disaster, or COVID-19 related item

Contact(s) name, title, department: Barbie L. Robinson, MPP, JD, CHC, Executive Director, Public Health Services

Attachments (if applicable): Violence Prevention Division Update, Court order