



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR

March 21, 2023

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
Submitted by: Lisa Warhuus, Director, Health, Housing, and Community Services
Subject: Contract No. 32200147 Amendment: Women's Daytime Drop-In Center for Community Crisis Response Services

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to amend Contract No. 32200147 with Women's Daytime Drop-In Center (WDDC) to add \$75,600 and extend the term of the Community Crisis Response Services to December 31, 2023 with a not to exceed amount of \$195,600.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

This amendment will add \$75,600 with a total not-to-exceed amount of \$195,600. This amendment will add additional American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to extend the WDDC program. Funding for the WDDC contract will be recommended for appropriation through the second amendment to the FY 2023 Appropriation Ordinance in the ARPA Local Fiscal Recovery Grant (Fund 354).

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

WDDC community crisis response services were initiated to respond to needs identified through the Specialized Care Unit (SCU) planning process. Originally, this program was going to end on December 31, 2022, but the crisis counseling services continue to be effective and well-received by WDDC clients. Concurrently, the SCU has moved out of the design phase, and into early implementation, however, the SCU is still hiring staff and finalizing logistics, making the extension and continuity of these bridge services crucial to serve this population in need.

Amending the WDDC contract is a Strategic Plan Priority Project, advancing our goal to champion and demonstrate social and racial equity. The additional funds will allow the WDDC mental health counselor to extend their contract term to December 31, 2023 which will provide continued crisis and post-crisis counseling support to WDDC clients experiencing a mental health crisis. WDDC's contract began on January 1, 2022 and the counselor started providing services in July 2022. This added service at WDDC provides mental health crisis support and facilitates group counseling programs for WDDC clients. This added funding and time will allow WDDC's mental health counselor to continue providing necessary services to clients.

BACKGROUND

As part of the Re-Imagining Public Safety process, the City has been engaged in planning for a Specialized Care Unit (SCU) that will ultimately become a 24/7 mobile unit designed to respond to and support people who are experiencing a mental health or substance abuse crisis without direct involvement with the police. The SCU is starting its implementation phase, with the intention to roll out by Summer 2023 with the contracted provider, Bonita House.

While this process and foundational work is taking place, there are immediate needs to strengthen non-police relationships and supports on the ground for individuals on the verge of crisis. Therefore, on June 29, 2021, Berkeley City Council allocated up to \$1,200,000 in the FY 2022 budget from the American Rescue Plan in support of services (Community Crisis Response [CCR]), which has been providing such supports until the SCU can be implemented. \$120,000 of the allocated American Rescue Plan Act funding was awarded to Women's Daytime Drop-In Center to hire and provide mental health counseling services to WDDC clients.

To date, WDDC continues to provide necessary mental health counseling services to clients, both individually and in groups. Throughout implementation, the counselor has been able to serve multiple clients and foster trust among clients in post-crisis counseling groups.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no identifiable environmental effects, climate impacts or sustainability opportunities associated with the subject of this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The additional funding identified will allow for mental health crisis counseling services to continue for WDDC clients.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

These services could be provided by a separate counseling program, but this is not recommended given the high demand for mental health crisis counselors and the trust that the current counselor has built with the WDDC clients.

CONTACT PERSON

Katherine Hawn, Senior Management Analyst, HHCS, 510-847-8532

Attachment:

1. Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT NO. 32200147 AMENDMENT: WOMEN'S DAYTIME DROP-IN CENTER
FOR COMMUNITY CRISIS RESPONSE SERVICES

WHEREAS, Contract #32200147 was awarded to Women's Daytime Drop-In Center to provide community crisis response services by hiring and providing mental health crisis counseling services; and

WHEREAS, through Contract #32200147, Women's Daytime Drop-In Center has successfully staffed and provided individual and group counseling for Women's Daytime Drop-In Center clients experiencing a mental health crisis; and

WHEREAS, \$75,600 was allocated to support an extension of the contract and to extend the services of the mental health crisis counselor; and

WHEREAS, Women's Daytime Drop-In Center is the most qualified provider to receive the additional funding to provide continued mental health crisis counseling services to their clients.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to amend Contract No. 32200147 with Women's Daytime Drop-In Center to add \$75,600 and extend the term of the Community Crisis Response Services for mental health counseling to December 31, 2023 with a not to exceed amount of \$195,600. Funding is available in the FY2023 budget in the ARPA Local Fiscal Recovery grant (Fund 354).

