

Agenda Report

March 17, 2014

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Public Health Department

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF INCREASE TO PURCHASE ORDER 55571 WITH MARTHA CRISTO, PH.D. FOR CONSULTANT SERVICES TO CREATE A NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM OF CARE

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize an increase to Purchase Order number 55571 with Martha Cristo, Ph.D., in the amount of \$37,001, thereby increasing the not to exceed amount from \$74,999 to \$112,000 for consultant services to create a needs assessment and strategic plan for the development of a mental health system of care; and
2. Grant the proposed increase an exemption from the competitive selection process of the Competitive Bidding and Purchasing Ordinance, pursuant to Pasadena Municipal Code Section 4.08.049(B), contracts for which the City's best interests are served.

BACKGROUND:

On August 12, 2013, the City Council recognized and appropriated \$215,122 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, a federal agency, to the Public Health Department's Fiscal Year 2014 Operating Budget for the purpose of developing a comprehensive system of care for mental health in children, youth, and their families. The Pasadena Public Health Department (PPHD) then entered into a purchase order contract not to exceed \$74,999 with Martha Cristo, Ph.D. for consultant services. PPHD requested an exemption from the competitive selection process on the basis that the City's best interests were served. Dr. Cristo was highly recommended by the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, due to her 20 years of experience as a licensed clinical psychologist and her work with children impacted by

trauma. She also has acted as an evaluator for multiple state and federal research projects.

Though Dr. Cristo was originally brought on to only facilitate strategic planning meetings for the expansion of a mental health system of care, there was a need to first step back and discover what local mental health providers, community partners, youth, and families believed to be the gaps in services and barriers to accessing services. Therefore, Dr. Cristo's scope of work expanded to include the creation of focus group and key informant interview questions, as well as the development of a needs assessment that will be conducted with 350 mental health providers, parents, youth, and community organizations.

Thus far, staff have completed focus groups and key informant interviews under the guidance of Dr. Cristo and her team. Staff are also currently reaching out to representatives of various community partners, such as the Flintridge Center, the Pasadena Mental Health Advisory Committee, Pacific Clinics, and the Pasadena Unified School District, as well as youth and parent groups, to become a part of a core committee that will then work together to create the strategic plan with a self-sustaining partnership structure supported by Memoranda of Understanding that codify the roles, responsibilities, and resource commitments of each community partner that will implement system of care. The core committee's meetings will be facilitated by Dr. Cristo and her team, and will focus on aligning the findings with the needs assessment with the availability of mental health resources in Pasadena and the surrounding area.

Due to the extended scope of work that Dr. Cristo has undertaken, staff requests an increase to her PO in the amount of \$37,001, thus increasing the not to exceed amount from \$74,999 to \$112,000. The cost of this increase is fully covered under the SAMHSA grant. To the extent that this increase could be considered a separate transaction subject to the competitive selection process, staff is requesting an exemption from this process because it is in the City's best interest to continue the strategic planning process for the creation of a mental health system of care for youth and their families.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

This action would support the City Council's strategic planning goals of ensuring public safety by facilitating the creation and expansion of a coordinated system of care for mental health in children, youth, and families.

FISCAL IMPACT:

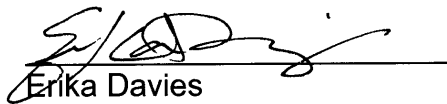
This action will increase PO #55571 with Martha Cristo, Ph.D. by \$37,001. All costs for these services will be funded by existing budget appropriations in account 8114-203-563105. This action will not result in any increased indirect and support costs, such as maintenance and IT support.

Respectfully submitted,



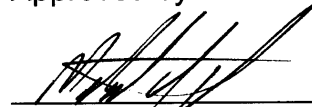
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