

# Agenda Report

March 27, 2023

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**THROUGH:** Finance Committee

**FROM:** Public Health Department

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION TO RECOGNIZE AND APPROPRIATE \$61,727 TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET TO CONDUCT A MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS AND TRAINING PROGRAM**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the proposed action is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to Section 21065 of CEQA and State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15060(c)(2), 15060(c)(3), and 15378, and, as such, no environmental document pursuant to CEQA is required; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration ("SAMHSA") to accept and administer \$247,623 in Mental Health Awareness and Training ("MHAT") grant funds on behalf of the City of Pasadena to provide a mental health awareness and training program; and
3. Amend the Fiscal Year 2023 Public Health Department Operating Budget by recognizing and appropriating \$61,727 of SAMHSA MHAT funding awarded to the Department in December 2022.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment ("CHNA") of Greater Pasadena prioritized health issues based on an analysis of health data. "Mental Health" was one of five high priority health issues in the City, with 31% of students surveyed in grades 7, 9, and 11 reporting chronic sadness or hopelessness. One in four Pasadena teens report needing emotional or mental health support. The proportion of teens in Los Angeles County Service Planning Area ("SPA") 3 who reported needing emotional or mental health support has been trending higher over the last 10 years, with nearly one in three

now reporting the need for such support, but only 14% receiving care. Among new mothers in Pasadena, 22.8% reported postpartum depression, and 11.5% of adults overall are at risk for major depression. Additionally, community stakeholders have expressed concern about the prevalence of anxiety and depression during the COVID-19 pandemic.

To address these concerns, the Department pursued grant opportunities to improve mental health awareness in the community so individuals in need of assistance can be provided the support they need through existing mental health services. In December 2022, the Department was awarded \$247,623 through the Mental Health Awareness and Training (“MHAT”) Grant funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (“SAMHSA”). The grant will support the delivery of evidence-based mental health trainings for four years through December 30, 2026. The Department recommends recognizing and appropriating \$61,727 of the grant award in FY 2023. The remaining grant funding will be recognized and appropriated through the budget process in each of the next three fiscal years.

Through the MHAT program, the Department will provide both Mental Health First Aid (“MHFA”) and Community Resiliency Model (“CRM”) trainings to local service providers, schools, and community members. The MHFA model includes both in-person and virtual trainings for anyone interested in learning about mental illnesses and addictions, risk factors, warning signs, and trauma-informed methods for providing support. CRM is a self-care workshop that will be offered to a subset of MHFA trainees who need or request further support so they can help others. CRM’s goal is to help to create “trauma-informed” and “resiliency-focused” communities that share a common understanding of the impact of trauma and chronic stress on the nervous system and how resiliency can be restored or increased using this skills-based approach.

Grant funds will be used to support the time of existing staff to coordinate and deliver MFHA and CRM, training materials, and certifications. Implementation of this program will support the Department’s goal of improving mental health awareness.

### **COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

The proposed action is consistent with the City Council’s Strategic Plan Goal to ensure public safety.

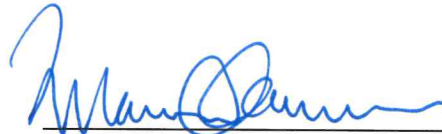
### **ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

The action proposed herein is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with Section 21065 of CEQA and State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15060 (c)(2), 15060 (c)(3), and 15378. CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(2) states that an activity is not subject to CEQA if “The activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.” The proposed action consists of a contract and appropriation of funds for training programs. No direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment would result. Under this definition, the proposed activity is not a CEQA “Project” and is, therefore, also not subject to CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(3).

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

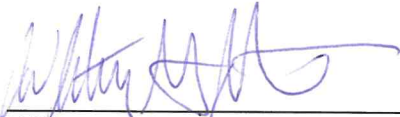
It is anticipated that the grant award of \$61,727 will be received and spent in Fiscal Year 2023. If approved, the Department's Fiscal Year 2023 Operating Budget will be increased by \$61,727 for project implementation. No net impact to the unappropriated fund balance is anticipated. Remaining grant funding will be appropriated and recognized in the annual budget submission in future fiscal years. There is no impact to the General Fund as a result of this action.

Respectfully submitted,



MANUEL CARMONA, MPA  
Acting Director  
Public Health Department

Prepared by:



Whitney Harrison, MPA  
Acting Deputy Director  
Public Health Department

Concurred by:



MATTHEW E. HAWKESWORTH  
Director  
Department of Finance

Approved by:



MIGUÉL MÁRQUEZ  
City Manager