



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
September 19, 2023

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
Submitted by: Lisa Warhuus, Health, Housing, and Community Services
Subject: Contract: Options Recovery Services – Encampment-based Mobile Wellness Center Project

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments with Options Recovery Services to provide Mobile Wellness services for individuals who are unhoused or living in encampments in Berkeley. The contract will be funded through California Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Innovation (INN) funds, for a total not to exceed amount \$2,802,400, through June 30, 2028.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Funding in the amount of \$1,201,000 provided from the State of California Mental Health Services Act Fund 315, is available in the Fiscal Year 2024 budget. The remaining funding for this project, in the amount of \$1,601,400, will be included in future budgets.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

In March 2023, per Bid Specification 23-11592-C a Request for Proposal (RFP) was released to obtain a community partner to implement this project. Following proposal review and rating from a panel of reviewers, which included community members, Options Recovery Services was selected as the vendor to implement these services in Berkeley.

The City Council approved, Encampment-based Mobile Wellness Center Project will offer a customizable menu of services (i.e. food/hygiene, service navigation, wellness activities, and community/enrichment) to Berkeley's unhoused population. Services and activities through this project will be responsive to the changing needs of the community and will be planned on a weekly basis based on on-going conversations with encampment community members. Coordination with local partners involved in current homeless outreach efforts will be central to service provision. This project is funded through Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Innovation (INN) funds.

BACKGROUND

The State of California provides MHSAs funding for local mental health services and supports. One of the annually recurring MHSAs funding components is Innovation (INN). MHSAs regulations require that INN funds are to be utilized on short-term pilot projects that increase learning in the mental health field. In order to utilize funds, stakeholder informed INN Plans outlining how funds are to be allocated are required to be developed and locally approved. MHSAs INN Plans also require approval from the California Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC).

Following extensive community engagement, the MHSAs INN Encampment-Based Mobile Wellness Center Project Plan was written and circulated for a 30-Day Public Review. A Public Hearing before the Mental Health Commission Meeting was held at the end of the 30-Day Public Review Period. In April 2022, both the City Council and the California Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) approved the MHSAs INN Project Plan.

Following project plan approvals, a panel which included members of the community was convened to inform what would be requested in the Request for Proposal (RFP). The RFP was released at the end of March 2023 and closed in May. A separate review panel that included members of the community was convened to review and rate the received proposals and Options Recovery Services was the selected vendor.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no identifiable environmental effects or opportunities associated with the subject of this project.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The execution of this contract will ensure that additional mental health wellness services are implemented for individuals who are unhoused in Berkeley.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

No alternative actions were considered as City Council previously approved the Encampment-based Mobile Wellness Center Project Plan to implement services for unhoused individuals.

CONTACT PERSON

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Karen Klatt, Community Services Specialist III, HHCS, (510) 981-7644

Attachments:
1: Resolution

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

CONTRACT: OPTIONS RECOVERY SERVICES – ENCAMPMENT-BASED MOBILE WELLNESS CENTER PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City’s Health, Housing, and Community Services, Mental Health Division (HHCS/MHD), currently receives Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Innovation (INN) funds on an annual basis to implement short-term projects that will increase learning in the mental health field through strategies that increase the access, quality, or outcomes of services, and/or promote community collaborations; and

WHEREAS, the HHCS/MHD often collaborates with community partners in the implementation of MHSA INN funded services; and

WHEREAS, in order to utilize MHSA INN funds, the HHCS/MHD must have a stakeholder informed, local and state approved plan in place; and

WHEREAS, following an extensive community engagement process, a draft plan was developed to allocate \$2,802,400 of INN funds to implement a Mobile Wellness Center for services, activities, and supports for the unhoused population in Berkeley; and

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2022, per Resolution No. 70,287-N.S, City Council authorized approval of the Encampment-based Mobile Wellness Center Project Plan and any extensions for services, activities and supports for homeless individuals in Berkeley for a total project amount not to exceed \$2,802,400; and

WHEREAS, on April 26, 2022 the California Mental Health Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) approved the Encampment-based Mobile Wellness Center Project Plan; and

WHEREAS, in March 2023, per Bid Specification 23-11952-C a Request for Proposal was released to find a local provider to implement this project; and

WHEREAS, in June 2023, following proposal review from a panel that included individuals from the community, Options Recovery Services was chosen as the vendor to implement these services in Berkeley; and

WHEREAS, funds for this contract in the amount of \$1,201,000 are available in the Fiscal Year 2024 budget in the Mental Health Services Act Fund 315; and

WHEREAS, funds in the amount of \$1,601,400 will be available for this contract in the Fiscal Years 2025 through 2027 budgets in the Mental Health Services Act Fund 315.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or her designee is hereby authorized to execute a contract and any amendments with Options Recovery Services to implement Mobile Wellness services to

individuals who are unhoused or living in encampments for a total contract amount not to exceed \$2,802,400 through June 30, 2028, with a record signature copy of said contract and any amendments to be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.