

CITY OF OAKLAND



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AGENDA ITEM MEMO

SUBJECT: MACRO Pilot Program Grant

DATE: Feb 11th, 2021

REVISED

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ITEM:

RESOLUTION AWARDING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT TO BAY AREA COMMUNITY SERVICES (BACS) OR LA FAMILIA/ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY WELLNESS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,600,000) FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MOBILE ASSISTANCE COMMUNITY RESPONDERS OF OAKLAND (MACRO) PILOT PROGRAM, FROM JANUARY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This item presents the Council with the option to enter into an agreement with La Familia/Alliance for Community Wellness or Bay Area Community Services (BACS) (henceforth, "vendors") to implement the Mobile Assistance Community Responders of Oakland (MACRO) pilot program in two areas of Oakland. Vendor will provide services from January 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. The goal is to launch MACRO quickly and provide mental health and other supportive services for non-violent/non-felony crisis response during the 18-month MACRO pilot program.

BACKGROUND / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Oakland voters have consistently identified community safety as a priority and first approved the Violence Prevention and Public Safety Act in 2004 (Measure Y) and subsequently approved the 2014 Oakland Public Safety and Services Violence Prevention Act (Measure Z) to provide a dedicated funding stream for community-focused violence prevention and intervention strategies, community policing and fire department services.

Due to extensive public interest in effective civilian alternative response models to support Oakland residents in crisis, Council President Rebecca Kaplan proposed funding which the Council approved in fiscal year (FY) 2019-2020 budget to explore implementation of a model like Crisis Response Healing Out On The Streets (CAHOOTS), a program in place in Eugene, Oregon, that provides a non-law enforcement response to mental health crisis calls (Resolution No. 87759 C.M.S.). Urban Strategies Council (USC) released a feasibility report in Spring 2020 that examined the CAHOOTS model and surveyed existing programs and services in place to respond to mental health and other non-violent/non-felony crises. USC coordinated with experts in the field, both community organizations and government agencies, as well as community members who have experience with existing crisis response services, to

propose Mobile Assistance Community Responders of Oakland (MACRO)

As part of the mid-cycle budget for FY 2019-21, the City Council voted on June 23, 2020 to budget \$1.85 million for the DVP to identify a qualified community-based organization(s) who will implement MACRO in several Oakland neighborhoods with an emphasis on neighborhoods in East and West Oakland in alignment with the neighborhoods identified by the DVP's place-based strategy (Resolution No. 88174 C.M.S.; Amendment to Resolution No. 87759 C.M.S.).

In addition, on December 15, 2020, City Council requested that the City Administrator's Office or designee begin reviewing options for the creation of Oakland City staff civilian response positions for the MACRO program (Resolution No. 88433 C.M.S.). This report details next steps in the process of implementing MACRO with the selected qualified, community-based organization as the implementation partner (Resolution No. 88174 C.M.S.; Amendment to Resolution No. 87759 C.M.S.). The work around a plan for a longer-term in-house strategy for MACRO would continue to be undertaken during the time period of this pilot program.

Release and Review of Funding Solicitation

A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was released in October 2020 and five (5) agencies provided responsive, written proposals by the November 20, 2020 deadline. These included responses from Bay Area Community Services (BACS) and La Familia/Alliance for Community Wellness, who received top ranking in the analysis and both of which received high ratings and are considered qualified and capable to provide the services.

The Public Safety Committee at its February 9, 2021 meeting considered Item No. 4, a resolution awarding the contract for implementation of the Mobile Assistance Community Responders of Oakland (MACRO) pilot program to Bay Area Community Services (BACS); and, following public comments by numerous members of the community providing their input and experiences, the Committee chose to schedule an alternative recommendation to the Council for consideration that would include consideration of the contract award to La Familia/Alliance for Community Wellness.

La Familia/Alliance for Community Wellness provides services throughout Alameda and Contra Costa counties, with a comprehensive selection of programs to meet a variety of mental health and community support needs. Services include; Outpatient mental health, Service Finder matching, Community Outreach, Developmental Services, Education and Employment Services, Recovery and Wellness Services, Equity Initiatives, and more. La Familia has a 40 year history of providing high-quality mental health and community support services in the San Francisco Bay Area. They started as part of a grassroots movement and their ties to the community remain deep and passionate. They are committed to building a vibrant and multicultural agency to provide services that meet the needs of the individuals and families in community.

RECOMMENDATION: Recommended that The City Council Adopt A Resolution Awarding A Professional Services Agreement With Bay Area Community Services or La Familia/Alliance for Community Wellness, In An Amount Not To Exceed One Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,600,000) For Implementation Of The Mobile Assistance Community Responders Of Oakland (MACRO) Pilot Program, From January 1, 2021 To June 30, 2022.

Sincerely,



Vice Mayor Rebecca Kaplan