



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
May 31, 2022

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: Expenditure Contract: California Mental Health Student Services Act Grant Funds for Berkeley Unified School District for Coordination and Provision of Mental Health Services

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or her designee to execute a contract with Berkeley Unified School District (BUSD) to transfer grant funds in the amount of \$2,267,355 requested for BUSD and received from the Mental Health Services Accountability and Oversight Commission (MHSAOC). These funds will be used by BUSD to coordinate and provide mental health staffing and services in BUSD in Fiscal Years 2022 through 2027.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The City of Berkeley has received funds in the amount of \$2,500,000.00 from the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSAOC) specifically to support the coordination and provision of mental health services in BUSD. The funds for this contract will be deposited and expensed from the One-Time Grant: No Capital Fund, ERMA revenue GL Code 336-51-503-525- (FUND\$ Project Code 421), and will be appropriated in a future amendment to the Annual Appropriations Ordinance.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Health, Housing, and Community Services Department (HHCS) worked together with BUSD to apply for a grant and subsequently received notification that the City had been awarded \$2,500,000.00 in funding. A request to accept this revenue was approved by City Council on April 12, 2022. As proposed to the funder, the funding will support coordination and provision of mental health services at BUSD, and this expenditure contract will allow BUSD to expend these funds for this purpose. The Mental Health Student Services Act grant is a Strategic Plan Priority Project, advancing our goal to champion and demonstrate social and racial equity.

BACKGROUND

The City of Berkeley partnered with BUSD to seek Mental Health Student Services Act (MHSSA) funding from the MHSSOAC to address pressing needs within BUSD related to student mental health and wellness. Although some specific uses of funding will be determined in the program development phase, initial planning conversations between District and school leadership and the Mental Health Division have resulted in the identification of three priority areas for MHSSA funding:

- Dedicated staff to facilitate relationship building and service coordination across BMH and BUSD
- Services to address BUSD's most pressing mental health needs through increased availability of on-campus mental health treatment, navigation support for parents/caregivers, and training for teachers and school staff related to student mental health and wellness
- A comprehensive assessment and strategic planning process to inform BUSD's long-term approach to student mental health

This agreement will provide the framework for a much stronger partnership between BMH and BUSD, increasing coordination at every level of service delivery, and ensuring that students' most pressing mental health needs are identified and addressed as soon as possible. Moreover, it will allow BUSD to develop a robust mental health delivery system for students in collaboration with the City's Mental Health Division; increasing the resources available for student wellness and strengthening navigation support for parents/caregivers and other stakeholders.

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

These funds will support the City's ability to support BUSD in providing needed mental health services for students in Berkeley. Providing safe and equitable access to essential health services is a key purpose of HHCS.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

No alternatives consistent with the City's goal of providing equitable mental health services were identified.

CONTACT PERSON

Conor Murphy, Assistant Management Analyst (510) 981-7611
Jonathan Maddox, Family, Youth, and Children's Program Supervisor (510) 981-5235

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

EXPENDITURE CONTRACT: TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM THE MENTAL HEALTH STUDENT SERVICES ACT GRANT TO BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR COORDINATION AND PROVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission issued a Request for Applications through the Mental Health Student Services Act for mental health services in California public schools; and

WHEREAS, the Health, Housing and Community Services Department applied for and was awarded funding in the amount of \$2,500,000; and

WHEREAS, accepting funding provided through the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission will assist the Mental Health Division administer coordination and provision of mental health services for Berkeley Unified School District (BUSD) students. These funds shall be transferred to BUSD through an expenditure contract for them to utilize to coordinate and provide these services.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the Council approves the following: The City Manager or her designee is hereby authorized to transfer funding from the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission to Berkeley Unified School District and execute any resultant agreements and amendments to support the coordination and provision of mental health services in the Berkeley Unified School District in the projected amount of \$2,267,355 total in Fiscal Year 2022 through Fiscal Year 2027. The funds for this contract will be deposited and expensed from the One-Time Grant: No Capital Fund (ERMA revenue GL Code 336-51-503-525- (FUND\$ Project Code 421), and will be appropriated in a future amendment to the Annual Appropriations Ordinance. A signature copy of said documents, agreements and any amendments shall be on file in the office of the City Clerk.

