



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
March 12, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
 Submitted by: Paul Buddenhagen, Deputy City Manager, City Manager's Office
 Subject: Contract: YMCA of the East Bay for *Berkeley's 2020 Vision's* Early Childhood Trauma and Resiliency Project

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with the YMCA of the East Bay (YMCA) through June 30, 2021, to operate the Berkeley's 2020 Vision Early Childhood Trauma and Resiliency Project, as described below, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$334,410.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Approving this recommendation would authorize a contract with the YMCA of the East Bay, for a total not to exceed \$334,410 in Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Innovations (INN) funding through June 30, 2021. Funds will be appropriated as part of the second amendment to the FY 2019 annual appropriations ordinance (Budget code: 315-21-210-000-0000-000-412-612990).

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Berkeley's 2020 Vision's contract would equip YMCA of the East Bay's Head Start program educators and staff, along with parents and caregivers, to better recognize and address trauma in some of our community's most vulnerable young children. By focusing on the early childhood years, this project would help pave the way for more Berkeley children to enter kindergarten ready to learn and to realize their full potential.

Berkeley's 2020 Vision began addressing childhood trauma in three Berkeley schools (a preschool, elementary and middle school) in 2016. On April 26, 2016, City Council first authorized the City Manager to approve the allocation of \$180,000 for a new MHSA INN Plan to implement a Trauma Informed Care (TIC) Project through June 30, 2018 (Resolution No. 67,434-N.S.). This MHSA INN-funded project sought to train educators to: (1) become aware of their own trauma and trauma triggers; (2) better identify students who were exhibiting trauma symptoms; and (3) more effectively help students in accessing the mental health services and supports they need. Due to staff vacancies, this project was implemented for only one year.

In 2018, Berkeley's 2020 Vision resurrected this project, renamed the Berkeley Early Childhood Trauma and Resiliency Project. The original BUSD school partners were first invited to rejoin the project. Although the principals and a preliminary outside evaluation reported positive benefits, higher priority BUSD training requirements prevented these schools' continued participation.

On October 30, 2018, Council approved a MHSA INN TIC Update, consistent with the City Council approved MHSA Reversion Expenditure Plan. This approval added \$266,134 of funds to the previously approved project budget of \$180,000 for a total amount not to exceed \$446,134 through June 30, 2021 (Resolution No. 68,640-N.S.). Original project expenditures were estimated at \$109,309, resulting in a balance of \$336,825.

On December 17, 2018, the State's Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) approved this expanded project budget of \$336,825 through June 30, 2021 and a revised plan for an updated TIC project. The City Manager's Office has since identified an additional \$34,885 in previously approved carryover MHSA funds, bringing the available funding for Berkeley's 2020 Vision's Early Childhood Trauma and Resiliency Project to \$371,710.

Working with the Kindergarten Readiness Work Group and the City's Mental Health division, Berkeley's 2020 Vision identified a new partner: YMCA of the East Bay's Head Start program. YMCA's four Berkeley-based Head Start centers currently serve 218 children under the age of 6 years old; 90% of their families have incomes below the federal poverty limit; 87% of these children are African American and Latinx. According to Head Start, 70 – 75% of these children enroll at BUSD. In addition to strong demographic alignment with the focal population of Berkeley's 2020 Vision, the leadership of the Head Start program has demonstrated strong interest, capacity and commitment to developing a system-wide approach to address the high incidence of trauma in the children and families they serve.

The proposed City contract with YMCA of the Bay Area is for \$334,410 of the available MHSA funds. On January 15th, 2019, the City Manager's Office issued a bid for the remaining \$37,300 to hire a consultant to conduct a project evaluation, as required by MHSA.

BACKGROUND

Berkeley's 2020 Vision is a collective impact partnership that is helping to advance the City's Strategic Plan goal of championing and demonstrating social and racial equity. Berkeley's 2020 Vision supports a wide range of programs and systems change efforts aimed at eliminating racial disparities in Berkeley's public schools, with a primary focus on African American and Latinx children and their families. A priority of the partnership is to ensure that all young children (ages 0-5) enter kindergarten ready to learn.

As demonstrated in seminal research conducted by the Centers for Disease Control – Kaiser on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), early childhood trauma has a profound long-term impact on health, wellbeing and opportunity throughout the course of a person's life (www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/acestudy/). In the shorter term, untreated trauma can deeply impact children's physical, cognitive and social-emotional development (www.wested.org/service/trauma-informed-practices-in-early-education/).

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

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

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

This contract will advance Berkeley's 2020 Vision's Kindergarten Readiness priority. The City will sole source the contract because the YMCA of the Bay Area's Head Start Program is uniquely positioned to conduct this work. As compared to other Berkeley early childhood education programs, Head Start serves a particularly large population and high concentration of extremely low-income African American and Latinx children. This contract with the YMCA of the Bay Area will allow Berkeley's 2020 Vision to effectively and efficiently address the prevalent issue of early childhood trauma with a significant portion of Berkeley's most vulnerable young children.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Berkeley's 2020 Vision first considered partnering with the three BUSD schools that took part in the earlier phase of this work. BUSD's demanding professional development requirements prevented these schools from participating. Berkeley's 2020 Vision then assessed the feasibility of working with other Berkeley child care centers. There were no others that served such a large number or high concentration of children who would benefit from participating in this project.

CONTACT PERSON

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

CONTRACT: YMCA OF THE EAST BAY FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD TRAUMA AND RESILIENCY

WHEREAS, Berkeley's 2020 Vision is a collective impact partnership that is helping to advance the City's Strategic Plan goal of championing and demonstrating social and racial equity; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley's 2020 Vision supports a wide range of programs and systems change efforts aimed at eliminating racial disparities in Berkeley's public schools, with a primary focus on African American and Latinx children and their families; and

WHEREAS, a priority of the partnership is to ensure that all young children (ages 0-5) enter kindergarten ready to learn; and

WHEREAS, early childhood trauma has a profound impact on health, wellbeing and opportunity throughout the course of a person's life; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley's 2020 Vision began addressing early childhood trauma in three Berkeley schools in 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley City Council first authorized the City Manager on April 26, 2016 to approve an allocation of \$180,000 for a new Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Innovations (INN) Plan to implement Berkeley's 2020 Vision's Trauma Informed Care (TIC) Project through June 30, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley City Council approved an MHSA INN Update on October 30, 2018 for a total amount not to exceed \$446,134 through June 30, 2021 (Resolution No. 68,640-N.S.); and

WHEREAS, less expenditures for the first phase of the project and \$37,300 in anticipated evaluation costs (required by MHSA), a balance of \$334,410 remains; and 371,710 in MHSA INN funds remains. These funds will be appropriated as part of the second amendment to the FY 2019 annual appropriations ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the YMCA of the Bay Area's Head Start Program is uniquely positioned to conduct the next phase of this early childhood trauma work because of the large number and high concentration of low-income African American and Latinx children it serves.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to execute a contract with the YMCA of the East Bay through June 30, 2021 to operate the Berkeley's 2020 Vision Early Childhood Trauma and

March 12, 2019

Resiliency Project for a total contract amount not to exceed \$334,410. A record copy of this agreement is on file with the City Clerk.

