



Agenda Item Summary

File #: 23-00604

Agenda Date: 11/14/2023

Agenda Item Name:

First Amendment to the Agreement with Meridian for Co-responder Team Funding

Presenter:

Claudia Tuck, Community Support Services Director, 352-231-0058

Description:

First Amendment to extend the term an additional year for the Co-responder Team funding (\$121,594.00) in response to the approval of a Justice Mental Health Collaborative Project (JMHCP) No Cost Extension approved by the Office of Justice Programs (OJP).

Recommended Action:

Approve the First Amendment to the Agreement with Meridian for Co-responder Team funding not to exceed \$121,594.00.

Prior Board Motions:

On October 12, 2021, the Board approved an agreement with Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. to provide funding from the Justice Mental Health Collaborative Project (JMHCP) grant to fund a Co-responder Team. On August 8, 2023 the Board approved the submission of a request for a No Cost Extension to continue the grant project through September 30, 2024.

Fiscal Note:

No Cost Extension

\$121,594 already budgeted in 061.36.3612.569.34.00 Project 2213601

Strategic Guide:

Social and Economic Opportunity

Background:

The Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCP) has brought together many stakeholders both the Public and Private sectors to better identify and treat those living with behavioral health concerns who come into contact with the Criminal Justice system. In 2017, the first grant was awarded and provided a process analysis and strategic plan submitted to the Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC). The current grant provides funding to embed a Clinician in Law Enforcement by funding a Co-Responder team in partnership between Gainesville Police Department and Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Inc.

The Agreement with Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. funds 1 FTE Licensed Clinician and

operating expense to fully implement a Co-Responder Team in partnership with Gainesville Police Department under the Bureau of Justice Assistance's Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Grant No. 2020-MO-BX-0021 to the County. Both Meridian and the Gainesville Police Department provide an in-kind contribution towards the project including administrative staffing, a certified law enforcement officer, and operating expenses to support the team. The Amendment will continue providing Co-responder Team services through September 30, 2024.