



Recommendation for Action

File #: 19-2878, **Agenda Item #:** 18.

9/19/2019

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 1 to the interlocal agreement with the Austin Travis County Mental Health Mental Retardation Center D/B/A Integral Care for the Expanded Mobile Crisis Outreach Team, which offers a first response team for mental health crises in collaboration with City first responders, to add four 12-month renewal options beginning October 1, 2018 each in an amount not to exceed \$1,147,229, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$5,736,145.

Lead Department

Community Court

Fiscal Note

Funding for this amendment in the amount of \$1,147,229 is proposed in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Operating Budget of the Downtown Austin Community Court.

Prior Council Action:

On December 13, 2018, Council approved Item No. 20181212-015 authorizing negotiation and execution of this interlocal agreement.

For More Information:

Peter Valdez, Court Administrator, Downtown Austin Community Court (512) 974-4873; Robert Kingham, Operations Manager, Downtown Austin Community Court (512) 974-1394.

Additional Backup Information:

The Expanded Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (EMCOT) works with the City of Austin first responders to divert jail bookings and emergency department (ED) admissions, and provide short-term community-based interventions to stabilize a person in a psychiatric crisis and link these individuals to Integral Care services or other appropriate care. The team also follows up with individuals to offer treatment and access to services through Integral Care and/or other community-based providers. EMCOT consists of licensed mental health professionals and medical providers who operate with a high level of autonomy in a community-based setting, review current medications, prescribe medications, and exercise clinical judgement.

Disposition options for law enforcement and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) are costly to the system, traumatizing for the individual, unnecessarily restrictive, and can include emergency detention, arrest, and/or transport to the nearest emergency department. Additionally, these dispositions can interrupt or conflict with an individual's existing mental health treatment plan and break the continuity of care. Arrest dispositions are especially disruptive to an individual's ongoing treatment because Medicaid coverage is suspended until the individual is released.

The goal of EMCOT is to address these issues in three ways:

- 1) Release the officer or paramedic from the scene within 15 minutes on average
- 2) Perform evidenced-based crisis assessments including risk to harm self/others
- 3) Link the individual to the most appropriate level of care and/or ensure continuity of care

FY19 Performance Measures:**Outputs:**

	Goal	FY19 (Q1-Q3)
Number of unduplicated clients served	1,512	1,108
Number of referrals that resulted in dispatch to the individual's location	2,700	1,321

Outcomes:

Percent of clients who were diverted from arrest	99%	99.8%
Percent of clients who were diverted from emergency department	75%	77.2%
Percent of clients linked to Integral Care services	68%	48.6%