



KPD MENTAL HEALTH CO- RESPONDER PROGRAM

RS-24-153

September 3, 2024

Mental Health Co-Responder Program

2

- What is it?
 - The KPD Mental Health Co-Responder Program is a collaboration between Central County Services (CCS) and the Killeen Police Department (KPD) to integrate a Qualified Mental Health Professional (QMHP) into routine police operations dealing with mental health concerns.

 - This QMHP, skilled in mental health treatment and crisis intervention, is provided by CCS through the Rider 52 Grant funded by the 88th Legislature.

Mental Health Co-Responder Program

3

- How does it work?
 - A Qualified Mental Health Professional (QMHP) is stationed within the police department, with access to radio communications, and responds alongside officers when the situation is considered safe.
 - The QMHP conducts a risk assessment of the individual, develops an action plan in coordination with the officer and the individual, and starts implementing steps to address the mental health crisis.

Benefits

- ❑ CCS and Temple PD have been running a co-responder model for over two years.
- ❑ Temple PD has minimized the wait time for CCS crisis team responses during operational hours, reducing reliance on the Hotline Center and local mental health authority dispatch.
- ❑ This approach shortens the time individuals have to wait to access services during a mental health crisis.
- ❑ It offers a real-time mental health provider on the street to support law enforcement in addressing the needs of individuals facing mental health concerns or crises.
- ❑ There is no cost to the City of Killeen, as CCS will handle the administration and implementation of grant requirements.

Recommendation

5

- Staff advises that the City Council endorse the Memorandum of Understanding between Central County Services and the Killeen Police Department for the implementation of the Mental Health Co-Responder Program.