



Fire Department Mental Health Professional Services Contract

RS-23-153

September 19, 2023

Background

- City Council directed the use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for firefighter mental health and wellness initiatives to help combat this increasing problem.
- The Killeen Fire Department Peer Support Team issued a Request for Qualifications to obtain a trained mental health team that would:
 - Be available twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week.
 - Allow for immediate treatment by a trained behavioral health professional to any Killeen Fire Department member who is struggling from the mental stresses of our profession.

Background



- ❑ A list of qualifications, with items specific to the unique needs of the fire service, was created by the team.
- ❑ Two vendors submitted proposals to the team with one vendor meeting all of the requirements set forth in the RFQ.
- ❑ ARPA funding will be utilized for the contract through December 31, 2024, which is the deadline for use of ARPA funding received by the City of Killeen. The remaining contract period, and extensions, will be funded through the fire department operating budget.

Impact

- ❑ Annual Cost \$45,000
- ❑ Total ARPA Funds to be spent: \$56,250
(10/1/2023 through 12/31/2024)
- ❑ FY25 Operating Budget \$33,750
- ❑ FY26-28 Amount \$45,000/year (\$135,000 total)
- ❑ Total 5 Year contract amount: \$225,000

Services Provided



- ❑ Provide direct counseling to members of the Killeen Fire Department during times of crisis and in response to traumatic events.
 - ❑ 16 Hours Reserved monthly
- ❑ Coordinate escalating mental health services requirements and needs.
- ❑ Provide clinical oversight to peer support programs.
 - ❑ Develop curriculum and training.

Services Provided

- ❑ Be available for escalated care following critical incidents and critical incident debriefings.
 - ❑ Within 24-72 hours after incident
- ❑ Complete 72 hours of ride-along “field intern” training inside an active Killeen Fire Station.
 - ❑ Completion date of December 31, 2023
 - ❑ 24-hour increments preferred
 - ❑ Required for all current and future counselors having contact with KFD personnel.

Impact



- ❑ This expenditure is recurring and ARPA funds will be available in the ARPA account 010-9501-491.50-86
- ❑ The remaining annual funds will be available in the Professional Services account 010-7070-442.47-99.

Alternatives

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- Approve the contract with A & L Solutions.
- Disapprove the contract with A & L Solutions and re-issue a RFQ.

Recommendation

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- Staff recommends that the City Council authorize the purchase of the A&L Solutions contract to provide mental health services to Killeen Fire Department Fire Fighters and the City Manager or designee be authorized to execute the professional services agreement in the amount of \$225,000 and any change orders as permitted by state and local law.