

**CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA**



Agenda Date:	August 5, 2024
Action Required:	Appropriation
Presenter:	Misty Graves, Director of Human Services
Staff Contacts:	Hunter Smith, Human Services Planner
Title:	Resolution to appropriate Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services Victims of Crime Act Grant Award FY24-\$123,614 (2nd reading)

Background

The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services has awarded the Department of Human Services \$123,614 from its Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) program to provide trauma-focused, evidence-informed case management and clinical services. This is a continuation grant from the FY22/23 original award.

Discussion

The City of Charlottesville's Department of Human Services' Evergreen Program increases access to trauma-informed intervention for victims within schools as well as low-wealth neighborhoods, expands access to mental health services for victims, and supports behavioral interventionist positions serving victims of crime. Funds will be used to hire one school-based interventionist, who will provide trauma and need assessments, service planning and delivery, coordination with other providers, and case management for up to thirty child victims each year. The school-based interventionist serves students at Buford Middle School. Both Behavioral interventionists will be trained in youth development, trauma-supportive care, and anti-racism.

Alignment with City Council's Vision and Strategic Plan

This project is strongly aligned with City Council's Strategic Plan Goal #2: Healthy and Safe City; specifically Goal #2.2: meet the needs of victims and reduce risk of recurrence.

Community Engagement

Community partners, including Charlottesville City Schools, were critical in the development of the original grant proposal to the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. Families and youth involved in the first year of programming have helped influence its development.

Budgetary Impact

The Department of Human Services has been receiving grant funds for this program from the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) since 2019. The award period for this continuation covers eligible expenses incurred from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. A recent review indicated that

while Council had approved the original grant for FY 23, the continuation of funding for FY 24 had not been formally accepted and approved by Council.

Recommendation

Staff recommends appropriating the funds as written.

Alternatives

If grant funds are not appropriated, the grant funds awarded for FY 24 will have to be forfeited and the expenses incurred for this program in FY 24, will have to be covered using local funds.

Attachments

1. FY24 VOCA Appropriation