

Policy Briefing Summary

City Council



Regarding:	ANCHOR FY 26 Annual Report
Staff Contact(s):	Hunter Smith, Human Services Planner, Misty Graves, Director of Human Services
Presenter:	Hunter Smith, Human Services Planner
Date of Proposed Action:	August 3, 2026

Issue

ANCHOR (Assisting with Navigation, Crisis Help, and Outreach Resources) consists of two police officers, two firefighter EMT's and two mental health professionals to respond to 911 calls for mental health or substance use help. This team launched on July 1, 2024, and recently completed their second year. The presentation will cover FY 26 data, highlights, challenges and the vision for FY 27.

Background / Rule

The ANCHOR (Assisting with Navigation, Crisis Help, and Outreach Resources) Co-Response Team is a collaborative group of law enforcement officers, firefighters, medical professionals, and mental health professionals who work together to respond to calls involving individuals experiencing behavioral health crises. The team aims to de-escalate situations, assess needs, and connect people with appropriate services instead of resorting to arrest when possible.

Launched in July 2024, ANCHOR's goals are to connect community members to stabilizing provider/s for long support and prevention services and engage in harm reduction efforts. The Team, responding to calls for service that come into our community's 9-1-1 system, works to de-escalate and support residents who are in crisis to help provide support at the moment and prevent other alternative options for resolution.

Analysis

Year two of the ANCHOR Co-Response Team was very informative. Notable achievements this year included successfully implementing a client record keeping system which allows team members to access up-to-date information on client interactions. It also provides real-time data that can be shared community wide. The team also attended the annual International Co-Responders Conference in Houston, Texas this year to learn from experts and peers in this emerging field.

Currently, ANCHOR operates Monday through Friday from 8 to 6 pm. This year, the ANCHOR team had 420 encounters and supported 241 unique clients. About 67% of these encounters were live responses to 911 calls for service, while about 20% were related to follow-up interactions post-incident.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact.

Recommendation

Receive the report as presented.

Recommended Motion (if Applicable)

Motion to accept the report as presented.

Attachments

None