



## Staff Report

June 20, 2023 Council Workshop Meeting

Resolution 23-006 CARES Provider Position

Presenter: Jennifer Gorsuch, Administrative Services Director

Time Estimate: 5 minutes

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**Background:** At the June 20, 2023 Workshop, a proposed new position for the Fire Department was presented. This position will be funded 100% by a two-year grant passed through by Clark-Cowlitz Fire and Rescue from Southwest Washington Accountable Community of Health. CWFD will join the current CARES (Community Assistance Referral and Education Services) team being led by Clark-Cowlitz Fire and Rescue as part of a county wide consortium. This employee will be a 40-hour FTE staffed by either a paramedic or registered nurse.

**Summary:** As part of the fire department's mission to provide the most appropriate care to those we serve in a timely manner the CARES provider's mission will be to assist those patients who have complex long-term care needs best met outside of the Emergency Department with this new position.

**Budget Impact:** Salary of this position will be revenue neutral as the total cost of salary and benefits would be covered by a grant which is available for two years currently. The salary and benefit total for this position is approximately \$130,000. There may be initial capital equipment costs to supply this position with the appropriate equipment to function in the position. It is possible some or all the capital costs may be covered by the grant as well.

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends Council adopt Resolution 23-006.