



## CITY OF MARSHALL AGENDA ITEM REPORT

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	Tuesday, October 12, 2021
<b>Category:</b>	CONSENT AGENDA
<b>Type:</b>	ACTION
<b>Subject:</b>	Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Marshall, Lyon County Sheriff's Office, and Western Mental Health Center.
<b>Background Information:</b>	<p>For many years, meetings and discussions have taken place between local law enforcement agencies, mental health facilities and our healthcare provider on how to respond to the growing concerns related to the increase in mental health cases and calls. In 2021, the Marshall Police Department had discussions with the Western Mental Health Center regarding the concept of what is called a "Co-Responder Program". The Co-Responder Program pairs law enforcement and behavior health specialists to respond to behavior health-related calls for service.</p> <p>This concept will utilize the combined expertise of the police officer and the behavior health specialist to de-escalate situations and help link people with behavior health issues to appropriate services. Several goals identified for this program to achieve will be to: 1) prevent unnecessary incarceration or hospitalization of mentally ill individuals, 2) provide alternative care in the least restrictive environment 3) prevent duplication of mental health services and 4) facilitate the return of law enforcement units to patrol activities.</p> <p>In August of 2021, we introduced the concept to our police department and identified an employee of Western Mental Health to lead the program. Officers have started to utilize the mental health professional and have seen how this service can link those in crisis to a long-term care plan.</p> <p>The current funding for the Co-Responder program is through a state grant received by Western Mental Health. Regular meetings to evaluate the program will continue to occur between all agencies involved.</p> <p>Included with the Agenda Item Report is the Co-Responder Program MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING between the City of Marshall, Lyon County Sheriff's Office, and Western Mental Health Center</p>
<b>Fiscal Impact:</b>	None
<b>Recommendations:</b>	Consider approval of the Co-Responder Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Marshall, Lyon County Sheriff's Office, and Western Mental Health Center.