

**To:** **Mayor and City Council**

**From:** **Melissa R. Marsh, City Manager**

**Date:** **January 12, 2026**

**Subject:** **Contract Extension with Oakland Community Health Network for Co-Responder Program**

On December 5, 2023, City Council approved Madison Heights' participation in a Mental Health Co-Responder Program through an interlocal agreement with the cities of Ferndale, Hazel Park, and Royal Oak. The purpose of the agreement was to jointly contract with Oakland Community Health Network (OCHN) to provide mental health co-response services. At that time, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners approved grant funding to cover the first year of the program.

Although Council approval occurred in December 2023, the program did not become operational until July through September 2024 due to the timing of staff hiring and training by OCHN. The initial contract period was fully funded through Oakland County grant dollars, with that funding ending in August 2025.

In anticipation of the grant expiration, the four participating communities met to discuss continuation of the program. During those discussions, Hazel Park indicated it would not continue participation without additional grant funding. As a result, the partner communities successfully secured an additional year of Oakland County grant funding to support the program from October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026. The grant for this period is before you for consideration.

This grant-funded contract period will extend beyond the start of the City's FY 2027 budget cycle. Staff will be discussing the long-term continuation of the program beyond this grant period as part of the upcoming budget process. The estimated total cost for the period of October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, is \$260,679. If all four communities continue to participate, Madison Heights' estimated share would be \$65,170. This amount would be included in the FY 2027 budget submission and remains subject to change based on partner participation.

Attached for Council's review is the proposed contract extension with OCHN for October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, period, along with program usage data provided by OCHN.

The Police Department and administration recommend approval of the contract extension and continuation of the Co-Responder Program, as it provides valuable mental health support and improves outcomes for both residents and first responders. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like additional information.