



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 09/22/2026

REQUESTER: Amanda Sherf, Social Services Manager

PRESENTER: Amanda Sherf, Social Services Manager

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2627-49: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA ACCEPTING SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION MENTAL HEALTH BLOCK GRANT FUNDS FROM THE OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO ALL RELATED CONTRACTS WITH THE OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES; AND CONDITIONALLY APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE THEREOF.

BACKGROUND:

The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS) has approached the City of Norman regarding collaboration related to serious mental illness, substance abuse, and homelessness. The project would be funded by OMDHSAS with \$185,000 in Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Mental Health Block Grant Supplemental Funds. ODMHSAS has proposed utilizing the funding to allow the City of Norman to partner with a consulting group who has expertise in behavioral health, homelessness, supportive housing, systems integration, and cross-sector collaboration as well as to provide technical assistance through the funding period. The consulting group will assist in developing coordinated cross-system strategies and infrastructure improvements to address homelessness in the City. This funding would be available for one year, for the October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027 funding period. There is no local matching requirement identified for the SAMHSA supplemental funds. All contracting and subawards will follow applicable federal grants administration requirements.

DISCUSSION:

Norman continues its efforts to create collaboration opportunities with statewide partners to address serious mental illness, substance abuse, and homelessness. With a total of approximately \$185,000 for one year, Norman can continue to build on the homeless strategic plan that was created in 2022 with Homebase. The City of Norman will engage a qualified consulting group with expertise in behavioral health, homelessness, supportive housing,

systems integration, and cross-sector collaboration to provide technical assistance throughout the funding period. Such technical assistance will include strategic planning, system assessment, partnership development, housing-system coordination, training, policy and protocol development, data and performance infrastructure, evaluation, and sustainability planning.

If this funding opportunity is accepted, the City of Norman will seek collaboration with other stakeholders, including Cleveland County, housing authorities, Continuums of Care, community mental health providers, homeless service organizations, courts, and justice-system partners to develop shared goals, referral pathways, and coordination protocols with the help of the consultant. Expected outcomes include stronger partnerships between behavioral health and housing systems, improved referral and coordination processes, measurable housing and system performance outcomes, and a sustainable model that can be expanded using future federal, state, local, and private resources.

This resolution seeks that the City Manager be authorized to enter into an interlocal agreement with ODMHSAS to ensure timely execution of the agreement in relation to the funding period. The agreement is anticipated to be a reimbursement contract, so an appropriation in the amount of \$185,000 is necessary to cover reimbursement expenses.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Staff recommends adoption of Resolution R-2627-49, accepting of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Mental Health Block Grant Funds and authorizing City the City Manager or his designee to enter into a contract with ODMHSAS for such purposes.
2. Staff recommends a budget appropriation of \$185,000 from Special Grants Fund Balance (account number 22-29000) to Social Services Grants – Professional Services (account number 22110040-44099) contingent on an agreement being executed with ODMHSAS to cover reimbursement expenses under the grant award. Upon receipt, funds will be deposited into revenue account Miscellaneous Grant Reimbursement (account number 221-331346).