



DeKalb County Government

Manuel J. Maloof Center
1300 Commerce Drive
Decatur, Georgia 30030

Legislation Text

File #: 2020-0642, Version: 1

Substitute

Public Hearing: YES NO

Department: Board of Commissioners - District 6

SUBJECT:

Commission District(s): All

Allocate \$2,703,083 in CARES Act funding for Immediate Needs County-wide in Priority 1 mental health services as described in DeKalb Community Service Board COVID-19 Response Proposal

Information Contact: Commissioner Gannon

Phone Number: 404 313 1777

PURPOSE:

The DeKalb CSB has developed a COVID-19 Response plan that will Expand access to mental health services, strengthen the current mental health system, and ensure compliance with CDC and the Governor's social distancing requirements. This plan combines expanded telehealth and mobile crisis services to ensure access to vital mental health services for thousands of vulnerable individuals in DeKalb County. The Plan proposes funding in two phases. This allocation is for Priority 1 Immediate Needs County-wide. A subsequent allocation could be requested for Priority 2 and 3 for program expansion, residential services and infrastructure.

NEED/IMPACT:

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in significant negative impacts to health and wellness due to multiple prolonged stressors that often lead to increased symptoms of anxiety and depression. Research during prior global crises indicate that communities see significant increases of alcohol and drug use as well as suicides. Knowing variables such as unemployment rates and prior reported deaths due to mental health and substance abuse, the CSB estimates DeKalb will see a 28% increase in Opioid drug related deaths, 24% increase in other drug related overdose deaths, and 11.68% increase in suicides.

FISCAL IMPACT:

\$2,703,083 from CARES grant for Immediate Needs County-wide in Priority 1 mental health services as described in DeKalb Community Service Board COVID-19 Response Proposal the Community Services Board

RECOMMENDATION:

To approve the resolution and authorize the chief executive officer to execute all necessary documents.