



## AGENDA SUMMARY EUREKA CITY COUNCIL

**TITLE:** Add Classifications – Mental Health Clinician (2 FTE) and Mental Health Case Manager (2 FTE)

**DEPARTMENT:** Human Resources

**PREPARED BY:** Will Folger, Director of Human Resources

**PRESENTED FOR:** Action       Information only       Discussion

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Approve allocation of two (2) additional Mental Health Clinicians and two (2) Mental Health Case Managers to the City's Crisis Alternative Response and Engagement (CARE) Division.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

No Fiscal Impact       Included in Budget       Additional Appropriation

### **COUNCIL GOALS/STRATEGIC VISION**

### **DISCUSSION**

The City's CARE team plays a crucial role in responding to mental health crises and providing support to individuals in need. Over the past year, there has been a significant increase in mental health-related incidents within the city. To better serve our community and address these growing concerns, it is proposed to expand the CARE team's capacity.

The proposal recommends the allocation of two (2) additional Mental Health Clinicians and two (2) Mental Health Case Managers to the CARE team, with funding anticipated through grants. These professionals will be responsible for providing immediate mental health assessments, crisis intervention, and follow-up support to individuals in crisis. Their presence on the CARE team will enhance the City's ability to provide comprehensive and compassionate care to those in need, with a primary goal of de-escalating crisis situations and reducing the need for law enforcement resources.

### **Benefits:**

De-Escalation of Crisis Situations: Increasing the number of Mental Health Clinicians and Case Managers will enable the CARE team to respond to crises with specialized training, reducing the likelihood of confrontations that may require law enforcement intervention.

Reduction in Law Enforcement Calls: By providing expert mental health support, the CARE team can proactively address mental health crises, potentially reducing the volume of calls to law enforcement and promoting a safer and more supportive community.

Enhanced Support: The added capacity will enable the CARE team to offer more extensive and tailored support, including ongoing case management for individuals dealing with mental health challenges.

Community Well-being: This allocation aligns with the City's commitment to improving the overall well-being of its residents by addressing mental health issues with a proactive and compassionate approach.

**Financial Considerations:**

The funding for the new positions is expected to be primarily sourced from grants which are currently pending and specifically designated for mental health services and crisis response. Additionally, the City anticipates opportunities for cost-sharing with relevant stakeholders and partners to maximize the impact of these positions while avoiding additional burden to the City's General Fund.

**REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:**

- City Attorney
- City Clerk/Information Technology
- Community Services
- Development Services
- Finance
- Fire
- Human Resources
- Police
- Public Works