



Committee: Directly to Council
Committee Review: N/A
Staff: Linda McMillan, Senior Legislative Analyst
Purpose: To receive testimony/final action - vote expected
Keywords: SAMHSA Crisis to Connection

AGENDA ITEM #6
December 14, 2021
Public Hearing/Action

SUBJECT

Special Appropriation to the Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget; Montgomery County Government; Department of Health and Human Services; SAMHSA Crisis 2 Connection: Expanding the Care Continuum into the Community Grant Award; \$1,915,270 (Source of Funds: Federal Grant Funds) Lead Sponsor: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

- This special appropriation was introduced on December 7, 2021.
- There is no Committee recommendation. A motion is required.

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

There is an increased need to strengthen the quality of community behavioral health treatment services. The need has grown during the COVID-19 pandemic. These funds will be used to support intervention services, especially for children and adolescents as they return to school and referrals for services increase. It will support creation of an interim stabilization center as an alternative to emergency rooms and incarceration.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- The Department of Health and Human Services' Crisis Center is available 24/7 by telephone or walk-in for Montgomery County residents experiencing a mental health and/or substance use related crisis. The Crisis Center provides 24/7 telephone and walk-in services that are culturally appropriate, and they provide person- and family-centered behavioral health care services.
- The SAMHSA grant will allow DHHS to further expand the number of Mobile Crisis Outreach Teams (MCOTs) increasing the number of intervention requests that can receive this response. It will also increase the ability to maintain contact with, monitor, and refer more crisis clients to ensure they end up in a safe and appropriate service environment or recover from their crisis. The interim stabilization center and increased services will divert more people from emergency rooms and incarceration.
- The grant will fund peer support as a component of the MCOTs. Peer-support is a key component of the County's strategy as the lived experience of recovery from mental illness and/or addiction is powerful proof that there is hope for individuals in crisis.

Attached:

Memo from County Executive	1
Appropriation Resolution	2-3

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OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

MEMORANDUM

December 2, 2021

TO: Tom Hucker, President
County Council

FROM: Marc Elrich, County Executive 

SUBJECT: Special Appropriation #22-43 to the FY22 Operating Budget Montgomery County Government
Department of Health and Human Services
SAMHSA Crisis 2 Connection: Expanding the Care Continuum into the
Community Grant Award \$1,915,270

I am recommending a special appropriation to the FY22 Operating Budget of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in the amount of \$1,915,270 for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Crisis 2 Connection Grant Award. This appropriation will fund activities that support the County's initiatives around strengthening community mental health centers.

This increase is needed to restore access to and strengthen the quality of community behavioral health treatment services available prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding will support intervention services interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially for children and adolescents as they return to school and referrals rise, and to create an interim stabilization center as an alternative to emergency rooms and incarceration that also addresses increases in mental health and substance use crises fueled by the COVID-19 pandemic.

I recommend that the County Council approve this special appropriation in the amount of \$1,915,270 and specify the source of funds as Federal Grant funds.

ME:ll

Enclosure: Special Appropriation #22-43

cc: Dr. Raymond L. Crowel, Psy.D., Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Jennifer R. Bryant, Director, Office of Management and Budget
Earl Stoddard, PhD, MPH, CEM, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer

Resolution No.: _____
Introduced: _____
Adopted: _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Lead sponsor: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

SUBJECT: Special Appropriation #22-43 to the Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Government
Department of Health and Human Services
SAMHSA Crisis 2 Connection: Expanding the Care Continuum into the
Community Grant Award
\$1,915,270 (Source of Funds: Federal Grant Funds)

Background

1. Section 308 of the County Charter provides that a special appropriation is an appropriation which states that it is necessary to meet an unforeseen disaster or other emergency, or to act without delay in the public interest. Each special appropriation shall be approved by not less than six Councilmembers. The Council may approve a special appropriation at any time after public notice by news release. Each special appropriation shall specify the source of funds to finance it.
2. The County Executive has requested the following FY22 Operating Budget appropriation increase for the Department of Health and Human Services:

<u>Personnel</u> <u>Services</u>	<u>Operating</u> <u>Expenses</u>	<u>Capital</u> <u>Outlay</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$0	\$1,915,270	\$0	\$1,915,270	Federal Grant Funds

3. This increase is needed to restore access to and strengthen the quality of community behavioral health treatment services available prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding will support intervention services interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially for children and adolescents as they return to school and referrals rise, and to create an interim stabilization center as an alternative to emergency rooms and incarceration that also addresses increases in mental health and substance use crises fueled by the COVID-19 pandemic.

4. The Source of funding for this appropriation is from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Crisis 2 Connection: Expanding the Care Continuum into the Community Grant Award. The funds will support the County’s initiatives to strengthen community mental health centers.
5. Notice of a public hearing was given and a public hearing was held.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

A special appropriation to the FY 2022 Operating Budget of the Montgomery County Government, Department of Health and Human Services in the amount of \$1,915,270 is approved as follows:

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Capital Outlay</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$0	\$1,915,270	\$0	\$1,915,270	Federal Grant Funds

This appropriation is needed to respond to act without delay in the public interest.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.
Clerk of the Council