



Committee: Directly to Council

Committee Review: N/A

Staff: Vivian Yao, Legislative Analyst

Purpose: To receive testimony/final action - vote expected

Keywords: #crisis prevention, #hotline, #988

AGENDA ITEM #10

January 17, 2023

Public Hearing/Action

SUBJECT

Supplemental Appropriation to the FY23 Operating Budget, Department of Health and Human Services, 988 Lifeline Call Center, \$720,038 (Source of Funds: State Grant) and \$257,219 (Source of Funds: Federal Grant) and Amendment to Fiscal Year 2023 Operating Budget Resolution 19-1285, Section G, Fiscal Year 2023 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Contract Award Status: EveryMind, Inc.

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

- No Committee recommendation. A motion is required.
- The special appropriation was introduced on December 13, 2022.

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

The County Council will receive testimony and act on a special appropriation of \$720,038 in State Grant funding and \$257,219 in Federal Grant funding to the DHHS FY23 Operating Budget and designation of a non-competitive contract award to EveryMind to operate the 988 Hotline.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- The Everymind Hotline has been in the process of expanding its capacity to address call, text and chat demand since the pandemic. The transition of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to 988 accounts for much of the most recent increase in service demand.
- The supplemental appropriation includes State general fund and Federal fund amounts awarded by the Maryland Behavioral Health Administration to the County. DHHS Behavioral Health and Crisis Services will disseminate these funds to support the EveryMind Hotline, including operational costs, administrative costs, equipment, training, and staff recruitment and retention.
- The appropriation is needed to support a variety of operational and personnel-related improvements to Montgomery County's 988 service.
- The resolution also amends Resolution 19-872, Section G, FY22 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Award Status to add funding to the contract with EveryMind with the purpose to provide "for enhancement of call/chat/text capability due to the transition of National Suicide Hotline to 988 and anticipated volume projections."

This report contains:

Transmittal Memoranda
Proposed Resolution
Racial Equity Impact Statement

©1-4
© 5-6
© 7-8

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OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

M E M O R A N D U M

December 6, 2022

TO: Evan Glass, President
Montgomery County Council

FROM: Marc Elrich, County Executive 

SUBJECT: Supplemental Appropriation #23-59 to the Fiscal Year 2023 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Government Department of Health and Human Services
Funding for National Suicide Prevention Hotline Transition to 988 Lifeline Call
Center \$720,038 (Source of Funds: State Grant)
Funding for National Suicide Prevention Hotline Transition to 988 Lifeline Call
Center \$257,219 (Source of Funds: Federal Grant)

I am recommending a supplemental appropriation to the Fiscal Year 2023 Operating Budget of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in the amount of \$977,257. This supplemental appropriation will appropriate two separate grants that County has received – \$720,038 for the Maryland 988 System Enhancement Grant (State Grant) and \$257,219 for the 988 State and Territory Cooperative Agreement (Federal Grant). These grants are awarded by the Maryland Behavioral Health Administration and are funded with State general funds and Federal funds, respectively. DHHS' Behavioral Health and Crisis Services will use these funds for operational costs, administrative costs, equipment, training, and staff recruitment and retention.

This increase is needed because the Department has received additional grant funds that will provide a variety of operational and personnel-related improvements to Montgomery County's 988 service. These include expanded Lifeline/988 hotline operations, phone equipment, staff training, recruitment, and expenses associated with electronic health records.

As part of this action, the County will also adopt an amendment to Resolution 19-1285, Section G, FY23 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Contract Award. The Chief

Supplemental Appropriation #23-59

December 6, 2022

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Administrative Officer recommends that this action serves a public purpose and is in the public interest.

I appreciate your prompt consideration of this action.

RLC:lp

Enclosures: Supplemental Appropriation #23-59

cc: Raymond L Crowel, Psy.D., Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Jennifer R. Bryant, Director, Office of Management and Budget



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Richard S. Madaleno
Chief Administrative Officer

M E M O R A N D U M

December 6, 2022

TO: Evan Glass, President
Montgomery County Council

FROM: Richard S. Madaleno, Chief Administrative Officer *BSM*
Office of the County Executive

SUBJECT: Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2023 Operating Budget
Resolution 19-1285, Section G, Fiscal Year 2023 Designation of Entities for
Non-Competitive Contract Award Status: EveryMind, Inc.

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting to amend the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Operating Budget Resolution 19-1285, Section G, and the FY23 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Contract Award Status as described below.

DHHS will modify the following contract award:

Named Entity	Purpose	Original Award	Revised Award
EveryMind, Inc.	Provide for enhancement of call/chat/text capability due to the transition of the National Suicide Hotline to 988 and anticipated volume projections.	\$517,608	\$1,494,865

EveryMind, Inc. provides an array of mental wellness services, including a hotline for crisis intervention where trained staff and volunteers provide supportive listening and vital resource referrals through telephone, text, and chat services.

The additional funding of \$977,257 will provide a variety of operational and personnel-related improvements to Montgomery County's 988 service. These include expanded Lifeline/988 hotline operations, phone equipment, staff training, recruitment, and expenses associated with electronic health records.

The sources of funding for this request are two separate grants that the County has received – \$720,038 for the Maryland 988 System Enhancement Grant (State Grant) and \$257,219 for the 988 State and Territory Cooperative Agreement (Federal Grant). These grants are awarded by the Maryland Behavioral Health Administration and are funded with State general funds and Federal funds, respectively.

I have determined that this action serves a public purpose and is in the public interest. Therefore, I recommend that the Council amend the Miscellaneous Provision in Section G of Resolution 19-1285 for the FY23 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Award.

RSM:tm

Enclosure: Amendment to Section G, FY23 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Contract Award

cc: Valeria Carranza, Chief of Staff to Council President
Fariba Kassiri, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Jennifer Bryant, Director, Office of Management and Budget
Raymond L. Crowel, Psy.D., Director, Department of Health and Human Services

Resolution No: _____
Introduced: _____
Adopted: _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

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

SUBJECT: Supplemental Appropriation #23-59 to the FY23 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Government Department of Health and Human Services
(DHHS)
\$720,038 (Source of Funds: State Grant)
\$257,219 (Source of Funds: Federal Grant)
988 Lifeline Call Center
and
Amendment to Fiscal Year 2023 Operating Budget
Resolution 19-1285, Section G, Fiscal Year 2023 Designation of Entities for
Non-Competitive Contract Award Status: EveryMind, Inc.

Background

1. Section 307 of the Montgomery County Charter provides that any supplemental appropriation shall be recommended by the County Executive who shall specify the source of funds to finance it. The Council shall hold a public hearing on each proposed supplemental appropriation after at least one week's notice. A supplemental appropriation that would comply with, avail the County of, or put into effect a grant or a Federal, State or County law or regulation, or one that is approved after January 1 of any fiscal year, requires an affirmative vote of five Councilmembers. A supplemental appropriation for any other purpose that is approved before January 1 of any fiscal year requires an affirmative vote of six Councilmembers. The Council may, in a single action, approve more than one supplemental appropriation. The Executive may disapprove or reduce a supplemental appropriation, and the Council may reapprove the appropriation, as if it were an item in the annual budget.
2. The County Executive has requested the following FY23 Operating Budget appropriation increases 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</u> <u>of Funds</u>
\$0	\$720,038	\$0	\$720,038	State Grant
\$0	\$257,219	\$0	\$257,219	Federal Grant

3. This increase is needed because the Department has received new grants which will provide a variety of administrative supports to Montgomery County's 988 Lifeline Call Center. Among these are expanded Lifeline/988 hotline operations, phone equipment; staff training, recruitment, and expenses associated with electronic health records.
4. The County Executive has requested a supplemental appropriation to the FY23 Operating Budget in the amount of \$977,257 to support the 988 Lifeline Call Center. Of the total amount, \$720,038 will appropriate the Maryland 988 System Enhancement Grant, specifying that the source of funds will be State Grant; and \$257,219 will appropriate the 988 State and Territory Cooperative Agreement grant, specifying that the source of funds will be Federal Grant.
5. Notice of public hearing was given, and a public hearing was held.

Action

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

1. A supplemental appropriation to the FY23 Operating Budget of the Department of Health and Human Services 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	\$720,038	\$0	\$720,038	State Grant
\$0	\$257,219	\$0	\$257,219	Federal Grant

2. The Council approves an amendment to the Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Contract Award and thereby amends Resolution 19-1285, Section G, FY23 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Contract Award. The Chief Administrative Officer has recommended this action and stated that this action serves a public purpose and is in the public interest.

The FY23 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Contract Award Status resolution is amended to reflect that DHHS will:

- a. Increase the amount of an existing award with EveryMind, Inc. by \$977,257 for a revised award amount of \$1,494,865 for the purpose: "Provides for enhancement of call/chat/text capability due to the transition of National Suicide Hotline to 988 and anticipated volume projections."

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Judy Rupp
Clerk of the Council



OFFICE OF RACIAL EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE


Marc Elrich
County Executive

Tiffany Ward
Director and Chief Equity Officer

MEMORANDUM

January 11, 2023

To: Jennifer Bryant, Director
Office of Management and Budget

From: Tiffany Ward, Director
Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice 

Re: Racial Equity and Social Justice (RESJ) Supplemental Appropriation #23-59
EveryMind 988 Lifeline Call Center

- I. **FINDING:** based on available information, Supplemental Appropriation #23-59 *EveryMind 988 Lifeline Call Center* does not appear to substantively alter service offerings that began with funding from Supplemental Appropriation #23-2. Therefore, the Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (ORESJ) finding remains unchanged: “Supplemental Appropriation #23-2 988 Lifeline Call Center is likely to support universal suicide prevention efforts in the County, but available information does not indicate to what extent existing suicide statistics and those most impacted by suicide risk factors will be centered in the outreach, communications, or supportive services related to the hotline. Therefore, ORESJ’s finding is inconclusive”.
- II. **BACKGROUND:** The purpose of Supplemental Appropriation #23-59 *EveryMind 988 Lifeline Call Center* is to modify an existing contract with *EveryMind* to include a variety of administrative supports, including expanded Lifeline/988 hotline operations, phone equipment; staff training, recruitment, and expenses associated with electronic health records.

In July 2022, ORESJ conducted a racial equity impact assessment (REIA) of the supplemental appropriation that provided original the funding for the transition to 988. This supplemental appropriation expands the work that began under Supplemental Appropriation #23-2. Background information—circumstances leading to the contract modification—was not available, so ORESJ cannot assess the extent to which the specific modifications address any inequities that emerged in the initial phase of the lifeline

transition. However, based on available information, Supplemental Appropriation #23-59 does not appear to substantively alter service offerings, though the provision of staff training and phone equipment could strengthen the delivery of those services.

Given that Supplemental Appropriation #23-59 builds upon Supplemental Appropriation #23-2 and does not substantively alter the services, ORESJ's analysis, and findings remain unchanged. Please read ORESJ's REIA of 23-2 available here:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ore/Resources/Files/23-02.pdf>

cc: Raymond Crowel, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Ken Hartman, Director, Strategic Partnerships, Office of the County Executive