



**City of Waukesha**  
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<b>Committee:</b> Finance Committee	<b>Date:</b> 8/30/2022
<b>Common Council Item Number:</b> ID# 22-4726	<b>Date:</b> 9/6/2022
<b>Submitted By:</b> Dan Thompson, Police Chief	<b>City Administrator Approval:</b> Kevin Lahner, City Administrator KL
<b>Finance Department Review:</b> Joe Ciurro, Finance Director JC	<b>City Attorney's Office Review:</b> Brian Running, City Attorney
<b>Subject:</b> Consideration of a Behavior Health Responder Services Agreement with Carroll University to develop the Behavioral Health Responder credential and provide five City of Waukesha employees training through the program.	

**Details:**  
This program was previously approved as part of the American Rescue Plan outline approved by the Common Council. The program is a first of its kind in the United States that will provide specific training for personnel that assist first responders in addressing issues of behavioral health, addiction, and other related issues. In addition to this training program the ARPA funding is providing funds for two Behavioral Health Responders for the City of Waukesha.

Recent data demonstrates that 12 percent of calls the Police Department responds to have some sort of mental health or related issue. These calls often take up to 3 times more to process and often result in repeat offenses as the underlying issues of the individuals are not addressed. Similar programs instituted throughout the country (*Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets*, (CAHOOTS), Eugene, OR, *Crisis Assessment Response Team*, Milwaukee, WI) have resulted in reduced recidivisms, reduction in emergency detentions, and reduction in length of calls for police officers.

**Options & Alternatives:**  
The Common Council could deny the contract and reassign the funds to other projects.

**Financial Remarks:**  
The total contract is \$360,000 for development of the program and training for five employees over the next four years.

**Executive Recommendation:**  
Approve Behavior Health Responder Services Agreement with Carroll University to develop the Behavioral Health Responder credential and provide five City of Waukesha employees training through the program