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CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)

TO: Honorable Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: July 21, 2020

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution directing the County Mayor to examine the feasibility of creating and implementing a countywide mobile crisis intervention program that is modeled after the Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets ("CAHOOTS") program, or other similar program that deploys behavioral health first responders; and provide a report

Resolution No. R-745-20

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan.

Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/lmp

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: July 21, 2020

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)

Please note any items checked.

_____	**"3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised**
_____	**6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing**
_____	**4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing**
_____	**Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget**
_____	**Budget required**
_____	**Statement of fiscal impact required**
_____	**Statement of social equity required**
_____	**Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing**
_____	**No committee review**
_____	**Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) ____) to approve**
_____	**Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required**

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)
7-21-20

RESOLUTION NO. R-745-20

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF CREATING AND IMPLEMENTING A COUNTYWIDE MOBILE CRISIS INTERVENTION PROGRAM THAT IS MODELED AFTER THE CRISIS ASSISTANCE HELPING OUT ON THE STREETS ("CAHOOTS") PROGRAM, OR OTHER SIMILAR PROGRAM THAT DEPLOYS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FIRST RESPONDERS; AND PROVIDE A REPORT

WHEREAS, nationwide approximately one out of every four people fatally shot by police officers are struggling with some form of a behavioral health condition; and

WHEREAS, a growing number of jurisdictions across the United States, such as Denver, Colorado, Portland, Oregon, and Oakland, California, are exploring a new category of first responders, made up of civilians who are trained in behavioral health and experienced in deescalating behavioral health crisis situations; and

WHEREAS, such behavioral health first responders are dispatched to emergency and non-emergency calls that require a behavioral health crisis intervention, which may be resolved by referral to community-based treatment, rather than police service; and

WHEREAS, one such program deploying behavioral health first responders in Eugene, Oregon, is the Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets ("CAHOOTS") program; and

WHEREAS, the CAHOOTS program consists of a civilian response team, including a certified medic and a trained behavioral health crisis worker; and

WHEREAS, the CAHOOTS program responders are dispatched through the Eugene police-fire-ambulance communications center; and

WHEREAS, the CAHOOTS program offers a broad range of services including, but not limited to, crisis counseling, suicide prevention, conflict resolution, first aid and non-emergency medical care, transportation to other services, and resource connection and referrals for those who need assistance with housing, dealing with grief and loss, or substance abuse issues; and

WHEREAS, the CAHOOTS program responders provide immediate stabilization in case of urgent medical need or psychological crisis, assessments, referrals, and, if necessary, transportation to the next step in treatment; and

WHEREAS, behavioral health first responders, such as those employed as part of the CAHOOTS program, relieve police officers of the need to respond to calls prompted by a behavioral health crisis; and

WHEREAS, it has been reported that the CAHOOTS program responds to approximately 20 percent of Eugene's 911 calls, saving money and conserving police resources; and

WHEREAS, non-police interventions, such as those provided by the CAHOOTS program, may reduce traffic to hospital emergency departments and jails, thus, preserving the valuable resources of those facilities as well; and

WHEREAS, this Board desires additional information regarding the creation and implementation of a countywide mobile crisis intervention program that is modeled after the CAHOOTS program in Eugene, Oregon, or other similar program that deploys behavioral health first responders,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

Section 1. Adopts the foregoing recitals as if fully set forth herein.

Section 2. Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to examine the feasibility of creating and implementing a countywide mobile crisis intervention program that is modeled after the CAHOOTS program in Eugene, Oregon, or other similar program that deploys behavioral health first responders.

Section 3. Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to provide a report to this Board within 45 days of the effective date of this resolution and to place the completed report on an agenda of this Board pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65. Such report shall include, at a minimum, how the program responders would be selected, how the program responder teams would be staffed and deployed, and the potential fiscal impact of the program.

Section 4. Directs that the report, upon completion, shall be placed directly on an agenda of the full Board without committee review.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan. It was offered by Commissioner **Barbara J. Jordan**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Eileen Higgins** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Audrey M. Edmonson, Chairwoman **aye**
Rebeca Sosa, Vice Chairwoman **nay**

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.	**absent**	Daniella Levine Cava	**aye**
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	**aye**	Sally A. Heyman	**aye**
Eileen Higgins	**aye**	Barbara J. Jordan	**aye**
Joe A. Martinez	**aye**	Jean Monestime	**aye**
Dennis C. Moss	**aye**	Sen. Javier D. Souto	**aye**
Xavier L. Suarez	**absent**		

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 21st day of July, 2020. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

Melissa Adames
By:_____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Christopher C. Kokoruda
Ashlee A. Pouncy