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OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 8(E)(1)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 21, 2024

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution retroactively
approving and authorizing the
Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Health
Emergency Life Protection
("HELP") Program

Resolution No. R-144-24

The accompanying resolution was prepared by the Miami-Dade Fire and Rescue Department and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Juan Carlos Bermudez.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/ks

MDC001

Memorandum



Date: February 21, 2024

To: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor 

Subject: Resolution Retroactively Approving and Authorizing the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Health Emergency Life Protection (HELP) Program

Summary

This item is to retroactively approve and authorize the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department (MDFR) to operate the Health Emergency Life Protection (HELP) Program. This program offers interactive, hands-on training that teaches life-saving actions to residents and others in Miami-Dade County, and lifesaving skills for adults, children, and infants including, but not limited to, hands-only CPR, early stroke recognition, techniques to stop bleeding, techniques to clear blocked airways, and appropriate responses to known or suspected substance abuse/opioid overdose emergencies.

Since its launch in April 2023, the HELP program has seen more than 1,100 participants. These participants can be categorized as follows: 30% were County employees, 20% were employed by municipalities within Miami-Dade County, and the remaining 50% were residents who attended individually or with community groups. Within this relatively short time since the program's initiation, several attendees have already shared accounts of facing life-threatening medical emergencies where they successfully applied the skills acquired in the class, leading to positive outcomes for the patients. These individuals attribute the saving of lives to the HELP program.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Health Emergency Life Protection Program.

Scope

The impact of this item is countywide in nature.

Delegation of Authority

There is no delegation of authority.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source

There is no fiscal impact to the County.

Track Record/Monitor

The HELP Program is monitored by an assigned MDFR Division Chief or his or her designee.

Background

In 2023, the MDFR initiated two community-oriented initiatives aimed at improving public education on life-saving measures and minimizing risks throughout the County. One of these programs is the Health Emergency Life Program. Through the HELP Program MDFR teaches residents and others who work and visit Miami-Dade County lifesaving skills for adults, children, and infants, including but not limited to hands-only CPR, early stroke recognition, techniques to stop bleeding, techniques to clear blocked airways, and appropriate responses to known or suspected substance abuse/opioid overdose emergencies. Our primary goal is to educate and empower all residents, employees and visitors in Miami-Dade County and the cities therein.

When a medical emergency occurs and 911 responders are on the way, there are critical minutes that can make all the difference in a patient's outcome. MDFR recognizes the need to provide training to members of the community that could help bridge the gap between the discovery of an emergency and the arrival of professional responders. The HELP Program provides individuals in our community with the knowledge and skills needed to assist victims of various life-threatening emergencies in those first moments when every second counts. This training program is designed for individuals with no prior medical training and gives participants the opportunity to learn about common life-threatening emergencies, understand the steps needed to assist with those emergencies, and to practice the hands-on skills needed to help save a life.

MDFR is committed to providing this training throughout the County on an ongoing basis at various County facilities, municipal community centers, faith-based gathering centers, educational centers, and other community-based gathering places. This training originally began for administrative and other non-emergency employees in Miami-Dade Fire Rescue. However, positive feedback led the department to expand the training to other County departments and to members of the public. This training is now regularly scheduled for community members at locations throughout the County, including County facilities, municipal community centers, faith-based gathering centers, educational centers, and other community-based gathering places. Large groups can also receive Help Program training, upon request. Every person who completes this program enhances the health and safety of our community.

Since its launch in April 2023, the HELP program has seen more than 1,100 participants. These participants can be categorized as follows: 30% were County employees, 20% were employed by municipalities within Miami-Dade County, and the remaining 50% were residents who attended individually or with community groups. Within this relatively short time since the program's initiation, several attendees have already shared accounts of facing life-threatening medical emergencies where they successfully applied the skills acquired in the class, leading to positive outcomes for the patients. These individuals attribute the saving of lives to the HELP program.



James Reyes
Chief of Public Safety



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 21, 2024

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 8(E)(1)

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. 8(E)(1)
2-21-24

RESOLUTION NO. R-144-24

RESOLUTION RETROACTIVELY APPROVING AND
AUTHORIZING THE MIAMI-DADE FIRE RESCUE HEALTH
EMERGENCY LIFE PROTECTION (“HELP”) PROGRAM

WHEREAS this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying County Mayor’s memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

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

Section 1. Incorporates and approves the foregoing recital, as if fully set forth herein.

Section 2. Retroactively approves and authorizes the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Health Emergency Life Protection (“HELP”) Program. Through the program, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue personnel trains Miami-Dade County residents, employees and visitors to perform hands-only CPR, assessments for early stroke recognition, techniques to stop bleeding, techniques to clear blocked airways, and appropriately in response to known or suspected substance abuse/opioid overdose emergencies, for adults, children, and infants. The HELP Program is offered to the public at no-cost and provided at various locations throughout Miami-Dade County.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner **Marleine Bastien** ,
who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Juan Carlos Bermudez**
and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Chairman	aye		
Anthony Rodríguez, Vice Chairman	aye		
Marleine Bastien	aye	Juan Carlos Bermudez	aye
Kevin Marino Cabrera	aye	Sen. René García	absent
Roberto J. Gonzalez	aye	Keon Hardemon	aye
Danielle Cohen Higgins	absent	Eileen Higgins	absent
Kionne L. McGhee	absent	Raquel A. Regalado	aye
Micky Steinberg	aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 21st day of February, 2024. 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

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK



By: Basia Pruna
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Shanika A. Graves