



Memorandum

TO: MAYOR LICCARDO
SUBJECT: BUDGET DOCUMENT

FROM: Councilmember Sylvia Arenas
DATE: 5/25/21

Approved *Sylvia Arenas*

Date *5/27/2021*

RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted.

Proposal

Program/Project Title: Social Emotional COVID Impact Program Pilot

Amount of City Funding Required: \$563,244

This change is:

One-time Ongoing

Cost Estimate Number (if applicable): 97

Proposal Description, including the reason for the need and anticipated outcomes (Please describe how the proposal will affect services for San José residents, community groups, businesses, etc.):

Children have been deeply affected by the pandemic. As Erin Einhorn has reported for NBC News, it has “taken an unthinkable toll on children — a social, emotional and academic ordeal so extreme that some advocates and experts warn its repercussions could rival those of a hurricane or other disaster.”¹

The emotional toll on our children is staggering, and we are just seeing the tip of the iceberg. I propose that the City of San Jose act quickly to bring the Wellness Center model to PRNS recreation facilities, provide a Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) model train-the-trainers approach, and bring in a contracted partner agency to provide services to children in our care. Additionally, we must create the ability to collaborate with school districts, to ensure that we’re closing the gaps in services and coordinating to ensure children receive the services they need.

School districts serve the same children we serve through our city Neighborhood Services programs, and – through their partnerships with the County’s Behavioral Health programs – schools have

¹ <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/education/covid-having-devastating-impact-children-vaccine-won-t-fix-everything-n1251172>

programs that we can leverage and bring into our city programs. Where gaps still exist, a new city contract with a service provider can provide gap coverage.

Particular attention should be paid to neighborhoods that qualify for some -- but not all -- School LINK services from Behavioral Health. Site selection should align with needs and equity assessments, which should result in sites that provide services where they're most needed, but currently absent. PRNS's Cost Estimate establishes that a program can be launched with a \$563,244 investment. That would cover needed staff and \$250,000 for a contract with a service provider.

Funding Source

Essential Services Reserve:

Other (Please specify program/project/fund): American Rescue Plan

Department or Organization Contact

Please list the contact information for the individual that certified cost estimates contained within your recommendation:

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