



MEETING OF JUNE 20, 2023

TO: Mayor Jordan and City Council

THRU:

FROM:

DATE:

SUBJECT: 0

RECOMMENDATION:

Council Member Jones is sponsoring a resolution to encourage the City to partner with Arkansas Rural Health Partners and Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield for free mental health first aid training for City employees.

BACKGROUND:

DISCUSSION:

BUDGET/STAFF IMPACT:

ATTACHMENTS: Agenda Request - Mental Health First Aid Certification



City of Fayetteville, Arkansas

113 West Mountain Street
Fayetteville, AR 72701
(479) 575-8323

Legislation Text

File #: 2023-827

0

A RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE TO PARTNER WITH ARKANSAS RURAL HEALTH PARTNERS AND BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF ARKANSAS TO OFFER FREE MENTAL HEALTH CERTIFICATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TO ALL CITY EMPLOYEES

WHEREAS, behavioral mental health conditions including mental health and substance use disorders are increasing and affect millions of Americans; and

WHEREAS, ninety percent of adults believe that there is a mental health crisis in the United States today; and

WHEREAS, two thirds of our citizens identify the opioid epidemic as a crisis; and

WHEREAS, more than half identified children's mental health issues and adults' severe mental illness as a crisis.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS:

Section 1: That the City Council of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas hereby encourages the City Administration to partner with Arkansas Rural Health Partners and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Arkansas to offer free Mental Health certification: Take Good Care: Mental Health First Aid to all City employees.

CivicClerk ID No.:
2023-827

AGENDA REQUEST FORM

FOR: Council Meeting of June 20, 2023

FROM: Council Member D'Andre Jones, Sonia Harvey and Sarah Moore

ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION TITLE AND SUBJECT:

A RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE TO PARTNER WITH ARKANSAS RURAL HEALTH PARTNERS AND BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF ARKANSAS TO OFFER FREE MENTAL HEALTH CERTIFICATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TO ALL CITY EMPLOYEES

APPROVED FOR AGENDA:

Council Member D'Andre Jones

Date

Approved by email
Council Member Sarah Moore

6-6-23
Date

Approved by email
Council Member Sonia Harvey

6-6-23
Date


City Attorney Kit Williams
Approved as to form

June 6, 2023
Date

Williams, Kit

From: Moore, Sarah
Sent: Tuesday, June 06, 2023 2:44 PM
To: Williams, Kit; 'D'Andre Jones'; Paxton, Kara; Harvey, Sonia
Subject: Re: Mental health training

Approved as is.

Thank you Kit.

--
Sarah Moore
Fayetteville City Council, Ward 2
sarah.moore@fayetteville-ar.gov
479.263.6629

From: Williams, Kit <kwilliams@fayetteville-ar.gov>
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 at 2:15 PM
To: 'D'Andre Jones' <dre91732000@gmail.com>, Paxton, Kara <kapaxton@fayetteville-ar.gov>, Harvey, Sonia <sonia.harvey@fayetteville-ar.gov>, Moore, Sarah <sarah.moore@fayetteville-ar.gov>
Subject: RE: Mental health training

D'Andre, Sonia and Sarah,

Please acknowledge your approval of this resolution for the Agenda by email or by signing and return the agenda request form.

Kit

-----Original Message-----

From: D'Andre Jones <dre91732000@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 06, 2023 10:00 AM
To: Williams, Kit <kwilliams@fayetteville-ar.gov>; Paxton, Kara <kapaxton@fayetteville-ar.gov>; Harvey, Sonia <sonia.harvey@fayetteville-ar.gov>; Moore, Sarah <sarah.moore@fayetteville-ar.gov>
Subject: Mental health training

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Fayetteville. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning Kit is there anything else needed on my end regarding the mental health resolution. Sonia and Sarah Moore are co sponsors.
Sent from my iPhone

Williams, Kit

From: Harvey, Sonia
Sent: Tuesday, June 06, 2023 2:23 PM
To: Williams, Kit; 'D'Andre Jones'; Paxton, Kara; Moore, Sarah
Subject: Re: Mental health training

Approved. Thank you, Kit.

Sonia Harvey
Fayetteville City Council Member
Ward 1, Position 1
(479) 409-5064

Report a concern with SeeClickFix:
<https://www.fayetteville-ar.gov/4233/Report-a-Concern-with-SeeClickFix>
Speak up on City projects:
<https://speakup.fayetteville-ar.gov/>
Voice your feedback to the entire Council and Mayor by emailing:
agendaitemcomment@fayetteville-ar.gov

From: Williams, Kit <kwilliams@fayetteville-ar.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 2:15:23 PM
To: 'D'Andre Jones' <dre91732000@gmail.com>; Paxton, Kara <kapaxton@fayetteville-ar.gov>; Harvey, Sonia <sonia.harvey@fayetteville-ar.gov>; Moore, Sarah <sarah.moore@fayetteville-ar.gov>
Subject: RE: Mental health training

D'Andre, Sonia and Sarah,

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Kit

-----Original Message-----

From: D'Andre Jones <dre91732000@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 06, 2023 10:00 AM
To: Williams, Kit <kwilliams@fayetteville-ar.gov>; Paxton, Kara <kapaxton@fayetteville-ar.gov>; Harvey, Sonia <sonia.harvey@fayetteville-ar.gov>; Moore, Sarah <sarah.moore@fayetteville-ar.gov>
Subject: Mental health training

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Good morning Kit is there anything else needed on my end regarding the mental health resolution. Sonia and Sarah Moore are co sponsors.
Sent from my iPhone

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE TO PARTNER WITH ARKANSAS RURAL HEALTH PARTNERS AND BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF ARKANSAS TO OFFER FREE MENTAL HEALTH CERTIFICATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TO ALL CITY EMPLOYEES

WHEREAS, behavioral mental health conditions including mental health and substance use disorders are increasing and affect millions of Americans; and

WHEREAS, ninety percent of adults believe that there is a mental health crisis in the United States today; and

WHEREAS, two thirds of our citizens identify the opioid epidemic as a crisis; and

WHEREAS, more than half identified children’s mental health issues and adults’ severe mental illness as a crisis.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS:

Section 1. That the City Council of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas hereby encourages the City Administration to partner with Arkansas Rural Health Partners and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Arkansas to offer free Mental Health certification: Take Good Care: Mental Health First Aid to all City employees.

PASSED and APPROVED this 20th day of June 2023.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

By: _____
LIONELD JORDAN, Mayor

By: _____
KARA PAXTON, City Clerk/Treasurer

Williams, Kit

From: D'Andre Jones <dre91732000@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 6:42 PM
To: Cole, Missy
Cc: Williams, Kit; Bechhold, Michele; Pennington, Blake
Subject: Re: Resolution to encourage the city of Fayetteville to partner with Arkansas Rural Health Partners and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Arkansas and offer a free Mental Health certification

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I will be happy to discuss this later this summer!! I plan to move forward with this item at the June 20th council meeting!!

Sent from my iPhone

> On May 31, 2023, at 6:23 PM, Cole, Missy <mcole@fayetteville-ar.gov> wrote:

>

> D'Andre,

>

> We had our renewal meeting with BCBS today and our benefits vendor Brown & Brown. HR is currently negotiating our renewal which we bring forward as a package for City Council to approve. We did discuss the Mental Health Course that you mention; however we have not selected BCBS s our vendor for 2024. Could we set up a separate discussion regarding employee benefits?

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

>> On May 31, 2023, at 6:05 PM, D'Andre Jones <dre91732000@gmail.com> wrote:

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>>

>>

>> Yes I would like to present to council thanks Kit

>>

>> Sent from my iPhone

>>

>>> On May 31, 2023, at 5:07 PM, Williams, Kit <kwilliams@fayetteville-ar.gov> wrote:

>>>

>>> D'Andre,

>>> Might I suggest that you work with HR on this employee insurance item? I have included them on this email so they can better understand what you are suggesting.

>>> The City works on its extensive health insurance policy and any proposed benefit changes annually with our insurance consultant who has repeatedly addressed the Council through the years about insurance benefits and options. If the Council wanted to consider adding this, I am sure HR would cooperate and our medical benefits insurance adviser could explore our options with Blue Cross Blue Shield and maybe with Arkansas Rural Health Partners (even though Fayetteville is pretty urban and I have no knowledge of them). If there is no cash cost for the City nor for our employees,

then only the employees' lost time could be an issue for the Administration to consider. Is the Arkansas Rural Health Providers also free for our City and our city employees?

>>> I share your support for mental health and substance abuse help and counseling for any employee needing such help. I believe that it would be beneficial and more effective to work this through HR for its comments and expertise before presenting a resolution to the Council. However, if you do not want to wait to do that and would rather just present your resolution to the Council to express your idea and support, I will get it in proper form for your approval.

>>> Kit

>>>

>>>

>>> -----Original Message-----

>>> From: D'Andre Jones <dre91732000@gmail.com>

>>> Sent: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 10:39 AM

>>> To: Williams, Kit <kwilliams@fayetteville-ar.gov>; Paxton, Kara <kapaxton@fayetteville-ar.gov>

>>> Subject: Resolution to encourage the city of Fayetteville to partner with Arkansas Rural Health Partners and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Arkansas and offer a free Mental Health certification

>>>

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>>>

>>>> Good morning can we add this to the agenda for the June 20th meeting!!

>>>>

>>>> Behavioral health conditions—including mental health and substance use disorders—affect millions of Americans. The COVID-19 pandemic may have also increased the number of people affected.

>>>> Nine out of 10 adults said they believed that there's a mental health crisis in the US today. Asked to rate the severity of six specific mental health concerns, Americans put the opioid epidemic near the top, with more than two-thirds of people identifying it as a crisis rather than merely a problem. More than half identified mental health issues among children and teenagers as a crisis, as well as severe mental illness in adults.

>>>> Resolution to encourage the city of Fayetteville to partner with Arkansas Rural Health Partners and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Arkansas and offer a free Mental Health certification Take Good Care: Mental Health First Aid to all city staff and employees. Fayetteville will be the first municipality to partner with Arkansas Rural Health Partners and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Arkansas. Participants will learn how to recognize signs of mental health or substance use challenges in adults ages 18 and older, how to offer and provide initial help, and how to guide a person toward appropriate care if necessary. Topics covered include anxiety, depression, psychosis, and addictions. This class does qualify as professional development for Arkansas educators. Materials, training and certification through the National Council for Mental Wellbeing are provided by Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield at no cost to participants. This is a great investment for city employees and staff. It contributes to a healthier workforce. Classes are 8 hours in length and are offered at the discretion of the city.

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