



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 11/07/2024

New Business

Department:

HHS - Public Health/Behavioral Health

Presenter(s):

Victoria Reichard, Behavioral Health Manager

Contact(s):

Victoria Reichard, Behavioral Health Manager

Subject:

Dogwood Health Trust Grant – Ujima Collective Healing Space

Brief Summary:

In the strategic planning process for Opioid Settlement Funds it was identified that there is a disproportionate increase in overdose deaths in the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) community and limited access to culturally relevant treatment options. With the support of the Office of Equity and Human Rights outreach was made to BIPOC led organizations who engaged in the recovery and healing space to identify potential strategies to meet the needs of this community to prevent overdose deaths. This group of partners outlined a proposal and together outreached Dogwood Health Trust for potential funding. Partners identified in the grant application is Umoja Health Wellness and Justice Collective, who would be the lead entity implementing this project, with services being supported By Any Means AVL, Safe Plus More, Love and Respect Community for Recovery and Wellness, and the location of this program would be at Brown Temple CME Church in the Southside Community. This grant will provide a contract for two Peer Support Specialists, a Community Health Worker, various groups/classes that support healing and recovery, and the use of space at Brown Temple. Dogwood Health Trust is granting Buncombe County with a 2-year grant in the amount of \$510,000 to implement the Ujima Collective Healing Space.

Recommended Motion & Requested Action:

Approve budget amendment

County Manager's Comments & Recommendation:

County Manager recommends as presented