



Las Vegas

Agenda Item No.: 52.

AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: SEPTEMBER 4, 2013

DEPARTMENT: FIRE AND RESCUE
DIRECTOR: WILLIAM McDONALD

☐ Consent ☒ Discussion

SUBJECT:

Discussion for possible action regarding an Educational Affiliation Agreement between the City of Las Vegas and the Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education on behalf of the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) which provides a system of public resource allocation and education by the UNLV School of Social Work, working with the Las Vegas Fire & Rescue EMS providers to connect citizens with the social services for which they are eligible - All Wards

Fiscal Impact:

☐

No Impact

☐ Augmentation Required

☐

Budget Funds Available

Amount:

Funding Source:

Dept./Division:

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:

The purpose of the Las Vegas CHIPs (Community Health Improvement Program) is to provide a system of public resource allocation and education. There are many members of our community that activate the 911 system for conditions and complaints that are not necessarily an emergency or require Emergency Medical Services for mitigation. This misallocation of community resources is costly in terms of both time and money to many parties, to include: EMS, Hospitals, taxpayers, and the health care consumer. Often times, the needs of these citizens could be more appropriately handled through Social Services already available in the community. The students from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Social Work, working with the Las Vegas Fire and Rescue EMS providers, will connect these citizens with the social services they need and for which they are eligible through client interviews and networking with community service centers.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

1. Educational Affiliation Agreement
2. Submitted at Meeting - Information on the Las Vegas Community Health Improvement Program (CHIPs) by Sarah McRae

Motion made by STAVROS S. ANTHONY to Approve

Passed For: 6; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 1

BOB COFFIN, RICKI Y. BARLOW, CAROLYN G. GOODMAN, STAVROS S. ANTHONY, STEVEN D. ROSS, BOB BEERS; (Against-None); (Abstain-None); (Did Not Vote-None); (Excused-LOIS TARKANIAN)

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Minutes:

FIRE CHIEF WILLIAM McDONALD reported on an innovative program called the Las Vegas CHIPs (Community Health Improvement Program). Through the development of a very creative program with the University of Nevada Las Vegas School of Social Work (UNLV), firefighters will be provided a tool that would allow them to provide enhanced services to citizens that need support, but not necessarily emergency support. SARAH McCREA, Las Vegas Fire and Rescue, has worked directly with UNLV in developing this partnership. As a member of the City of Las Vegas Fire and Rescue, she has been a paramedic, a member of the rescue team, an engineer and she is now the Medical Services Quality Improvement Coordinator. CHIEF McDONALD acknowledged MARGHERITA JELLINEK, Executive Director, UNLV School of Social Work.

MS. McCREA explained that having been a paramedic, she recognized that a large portion of the population's needs were not met by the members of emergency medical services. This is an extension of what the fire department already provides to make sure that the communication gaps are closed. This program will also provide experience to UNLV students and reach out to the community.

MS. McCREA discussed with MAYOR GOODMAN the opportunity two UNLV students, who are in the master degree program, will be working with fire. The students will meet the citizens and act as social service brokers and identify which social service would be best for their needs. She stated that they will check with various hospitals to see if there is a reduction in these repeat numbers for less severe problems. Ways will be identified to track the trends to see how effective this program has been. MS. McCREA verified that most hospitals have social services providers within their emergency department.