

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO THE S.E.L.
GROUP FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH RESPONSE PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, municipalities routinely come into contact with persons suffering from various behavioral health conditions that require assistance beyond a staff member's skill set;

WHEREAS, the term "Behavioral Health" is often used to describe the connection between our behaviors and the fundamental sense of well-being and practitioners working in Behavioral Health offer therapies designed to help individuals cope with mental health issues such as depression, anxiety and addiction to alcohol or drugs;

WHEREAS, North Carolina's percentage of serious mental illness (SMI) among adults aged 18 years of age or older was 4.7% in 2014-15, which was higher than the national average of 4.1% of all adults;

WHEREAS, NC is ranked 44 out of 50 states in the 2020 Mental Health Access to Care Data;

WHEREAS, Greensboro, NC has seen a recent rise in behavioral health cases;

WHEREAS, interaction with persons in crisis can be volatile for City staff and other parties;

WHEREAS, on October 17, 2019, the Procurement Services Division conducted an open solicitation through the Greensboro E-Procurement System for Behavioral Health Response Program services;

WHEREAS, after review of the proposals submitted for the Behavioral Health Response Program, it was agreed to, with participation of the Library Department, the M/WBE Office, the Office of Equity and Inclusion, and the Greensboro Police Department, that the contract should be awarded to The S.E.L. Group;

WHEREAS, The S.E.L. Group will utilize mental health professionals to provide the following services: real-time response, triaged mobile crises, case consultation and review, critical incident debriefing, and ongoing staff training;

WHEREAS, the program will run 24 hours a day, 365 days a year through December 31, 2020 with the option of two one-year renewals;

WHEREAS, the partnership with The S.E.L. Group will allow the City to provide a level of assistance and expertise to safely and effectively deal with different types of crises situations;

WHEREAS, the ability to have mental health professionals available to respond to a person in crisis is a valuable resource and the development of the Behavioral Health Response Program will positively benefit all City departments and individuals in crisis within the City;
and

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

That the City Manager is authorized to enter into contract with The S.E.L. Group in the amount not to exceed \$500,000 for the Behavioral Health Response Program.