

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2024-475

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council Member Salem

Date of Introduction: June 11, 2024

Committee(s) of Reference: NCSPHS, R, F

Date of Analysis: June 11, 2024

Type of Action: Appropriation, agreement authorization, *Ordinance Code* waiver and designation of oversight agency

Bill Summary: This bill is an appropriation of \$310,713.50 from the Council President's Designated Contingency to procure contractual services from I.M. Sulzbacher Center for the Homeless, Inc. The service agreement between the City and Sulzbacher is authorized. Section 118.107, *Ordinance Code* is waived to allow for a direct contract with Sulzbacher. The Grants and Contract Compliance Division of the Finance Department will oversee the project.

Background Information: The purpose of this legislation is to provide funds for the Mental Health Offender Program for the continued operation of a jail diversion program for mentally ill offenders. The purpose of MHOP is to reduce the demands on the criminal justice system by helping those with mental illness who rotate through the jail due to non-violent misdemeanor arrests, reducing recidivism and reducing community costs associated with these individuals. Sulzbacher has successfully operated the program since the inception of the MHOP as a nine-month pilot project in 2020. The initial pilot project successfully aided 20 clients, and the program has been expanded after the highly successful pilot term. The goal of MHOP is to screen 100 individuals and enroll 40 participants annually. The appropriation will be allocated as follows:

- \$194,098.20 for salaries and benefits
- \$66,615.30 equipment and direct client expenses (housing, food, miscellaneous)
- \$50,000 capital outlay (transport van)

Policy Impact Area: Mental Health Offender Program

Fiscal Impact: \$310,713.50

Analyst: Hampsey