

City of Concord, New Hampshire

POLICE DEPARTMENT

35 Green Street • 03301-4299 (603) 225-8600 FAX (603) 225-8519 www.concordpolice.com

REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: John G. Thomas – Deputy Chief of Police

DATE: February 1, 2022

SUBJECT: 2021/2022 Adverse Childhood Experience Response Team (ACERT) Program

Recommendation

Accept and appropriate the amount of up to Twenty-six thousand dollars (\$26,000.00) in funding provided through the Granite United Way. Funds from this program will be used by the Department to pay for overtime expenses incurred by the Department as its members participate in ACERT Program activities.

Background

The Concord Police Department has played an integral role in the development of the Adverse Childhood Experience Response Team Program (ACERT) in the Concord area. This program was designed to establish a team approach to serve and offer resources to children who have been exposed to violence. ACERT teams include members of law enforcement, mental health providers, social workers and crisis counselors. The team has responded to incidents where children may have been exposed to violence, assess the situation and determine next steps that can be taken for the child, such as support groups, mental health counseling, early childhood education, or child-parent psychotherapy.

Discussion

The Granite United Way will serve as the fiscal agent and primary administrator of the Concord ACERT program. The funding provided by the Granite United Way will cover overtime expenses associated with Department members participating in ACERT activities. The ACERT program has proven highly successful for Concord in the last year and half of operation. This program has afforded the Concord Police Department the ability to perform outreach to those children and families in need of services. This program has been a significant resource to the community.

It is recommended that the City Council accept and appropriate this funding.