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Nathaniel Goodman
Chief of Police

To: Sophie Wilson, Town Manager
From: Nate Goodman, Chief of Police
Re: Alternative Response funding source pilot program
Date: 05/01/24

Over the last year, we have successfully instituted an active Alternative Response caseworker program in Freeport. Glenn Tatro, our caseworker, has logged well over 500 community contacts for assistance with a very broad range of needs. He has helped people obtain housing vouchers, drug and alcohol rehabilitation assistance and has worked many hours with our police department helping with some of our most challenging cases.

After a scene is deemed safe, Glenn is introduced to people who are in need of assistance where he then is able to work closely with his contacts at our partner agencies statewide in finding the best available resources for them.

I have received a lot of positive feedback from community members, Freeport Community Service employees and people on the street who have seen Glenn in action. Just this past week, Glenn assisted our officers in helping a person experiencing suicidal ideations receive medical and mental health intervention.

I'm reaching out to request that Freeport look at funding Glenn's alternative response position in the future with a line item request for the budget. It would be helpful to have an amount of money that can be used by Glenn, while helping people on the 'street level' by providing assistance with substance abuse intervention, food, clothing, gas or other emergent basic need that he sees every day.

We can and have accomplished a lot working closely with FCS and their wonderful staff, however Glenn often works after hours at times when we do not have access to some necessities that people or families in crisis need.

This budget line would allow Glenn, with supervisory approval, to intervene and assist people with these needs on a case-by-case basis, further advancing the goals of the police department mission to help assist our community members where they are.

I would ask that we fund a pilot program, perhaps with some ARPA funding for the first year and allow Glenn an account with \$10,000 in it to help people he encounters who need direct intervention. He has shown me over the last year that he possesses a vast amount of experience in this realm and his



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decision making is sound when it comes to dealing with the many varied cases that he encounters each day.

Glenn would be tasked with keeping a monthly log of any expenditure from this account, which we would compile into a spreadsheet and forward to the Town Manager or her designee for final approval.

I believe we will find that our ability to rapidly respond during all hours of the day or night with the ability to help people in real time will vastly improve efficiency and credibility with our alternative response program.

Respectfully yours,

Chief Nathaniel Goodman