



CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** July 27, 2026

SUBJECT: Consider Resolution No. 2026-045, authorizing submission of the grant application and acceptance of allocated funds, if awarded, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 for the FY26 Community Oriented Policing Services Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act Program.

PRESENTER: Jeff Garner, Chief of Police

SUMMARY:

The Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) has announced the FY26 COPS Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act (LEMHWA) application, which provides funding to law enforcement agencies who have current wellness programs in place and are seeking to enhance or expand upon those existing programs.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The North Richland Hills Police Department is seeking authorization to apply for and accept grant funds offered through the FY26 COPS-LEMHWA application to enhance the existing peer support team as well as expand the mental health and wellness program. If awarded the grant, funds will be used to offer additional training to the members of the existing peer support team, enhancing their ability to assist fellow employees. Additionally, funding will also be used to support the expansion of the department's mental health and wellness program by offering additional classes to all department employees, extending counseling sessions to include immediate family members, and purchasing software and hardware to improve mental health and wellness.

According to a 2025 study using National Occupational Mortality Surveillance (NOMS) data, suicide accounted for 41.4% of externally caused deaths among law enforcement personnel. This finding underscores the critical need for ongoing mental health education, training, and wellness initiatives within law enforcement agencies. Providing department employees and their families with the knowledge, resources, and support needed to prioritize and maintain their mental wellbeing can help strengthen officer resilience, improve overall health, and contribute to a more effective police force.

The FY26 COPS-LEMHWA is a two-year award program. The total grant request will not exceed \$200,000. There is no match requirement. The specified goals, objectives, and targets for the project are being developed and will be completed before the August 5, 2026, grant submission deadline.



RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Resolution No. 2026-045.