



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
CONFERENCE MEETING

#26-0747

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Christopher Cooper, Acting City Manager

DATE: August 18, 2026

TITLE: Presentation on the Florida Department of Health's Harm Reduction
Overdose Grant Program – Mobile Integrated Health – Community
Outreach Response and Engagement – Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue
(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

On June 2, 2026, through CAM #26-0084, the City Commission authorized the acceptance of grant funding in the amount of \$344,988 from the Florida Department of Health's Harm Reduction Overdose Program. This funding enabled Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue (FLFR) to establish a post-overdose treatment program designed to connect individuals who have experienced an overdose with appropriate treatment and recovery services within 72 hours of hospital discharge.

FLFR's Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) team is responsible for engaging program participants and connecting them with substance use treatment programs, rehabilitation services, and other supportive resources, including food assistance, financial security resources, and housing services.

In conjunction with the Health Harm Reduction Overdose Program, FLFR also received grant funding to implement the Community Outreach Response and Engagement (COrE) Program. Both initiatives have been implemented through a three-phase rollout that began in July 2026, when grant funding became available.

The first phase focused on the MIH team identifying and contacting potential clients and connecting them with appropriate community resources. The second phase, which began on July 23, 2026, expanded the program to include immediate notification of overdose incidents through the Broward Sheriffs Department's Fire Rescue Communications, allowing the MIH team to respond directly to overdose calls or make contact with patients at the hospital. The third and final phase includes the implementation of a Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) program, through which eligible clients will receive medication to help manage withdrawal symptoms and support their recovery.

Grant funds have been used to purchase the equipment and technology necessary to launch the program, including computer software, tablets, automated external

defibrillators (AEDs), and other operational equipment required to support the MIH team's activities.

The presentation will provide the City Commission and the public with an overview of MIH and CORE to help spread awareness of the programs.

Strategic Connections

This item is a FY 2026 Commission Priority, advancing the Public Safety initiative.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Public Safety Focus Area, Goal 1: Be a safe community that is proactive and responsive to risks.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035* Vision Plan: We Are Community.

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Presentation

Prepared by: Christopher Davis-Partridge, EMS Battalion Chief
Stephen W. Gollan, Fire Chief

Department Director: Stephen W. Gollan, Fire Chief