

From: [Anne Ehresman](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: FOR PUBLIC COMMENT | 6.13.23 AGENDA ITEM: 6.2
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 10:02:11 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[CHAC_JPA_Mountain View_2023-24_REQUEST.pdf](#)

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CHAC | Community Health Awareness Council

Thank you for your strong partnership with CHAC. Our 50th anniversary is approaching. So much has changed since three local moms lobbied their local cities in 1973 to respond collectively to the emerging substance abuse and mental health needs in our community. CHAC's deep roots and services across Mountain View, Los Altos, and Los Altos Hills have impacted over 7,000 individuals, youth, and families this year alone. Our impact is grounded in our commitment to early intervention, prevention, and crisis support for all ages, regardless of ability to pay.

We appreciate your consideration of CHAC's JPA funding request of \$135,680 to support critical mental health supports to lower income individuals and families -- and particularly youth. I've attached the original letter that we submitted to the City Manager's Office in late March. Since that time, CHAC has been working hard to stabilize our budget and seek additional funding. Our School Partnerships are strong as well as our Family Resource Centers. Santa Clara County recently approved a \$1 million allocation for CHAC to be included in the FY 23-24 budget that will support our infrastructure and services.

The City of Mountain View, alongside the other JPA partners, will provide foundational support as the organization evaluates our structure, sustainability, and possible partnerships to continue to provide these critical services. Our partnership with you and the local schools helps build a safe, healthy, and resilient community.

With gratitude,

Anne Ehresman

Anne Ehresman, MSW (she/her)
Interim Executive Director

CHAC

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March 29, 2023

Kimbra McCarthy, City Manager
Councilmember Ellen Kamei
City of Mountain View
500 Castro Street
Mountain View, CA 94040

Dear Ms. McCarthy and Councilmember Kamei:

Thank you for your strong partnership with CHAC. Our 50th anniversary is approaching. So much has changed since three local moms lobbied their local cities in 1973 to respond collectively to the emerging substance abuse and mental health needs in our community. CHAC's deep roots and services across Mountain View, Los Altos, and Los Altos Hills have impacted over 7,000 individuals, youth, and families this year alone. Our impact is grounded in our commitment to early intervention, prevention, and crisis support for all ages, regardless of ability to pay. Our partnership with you and the local schools helps build a safe, healthy, resilient, and friendly community.

In January 2023, the CHAC Board of Directors contracted with Venture Leadership Collective, a Mountain View based consulting group, to analyze our business model and provide Interim Executive Director leadership for up to one year. I have been serving in the Interim ED capacity since January 9th, with a one-week overlap with retiring Executive Director Marsha Deslauriers. I've appreciated the support of each of the JPA representatives assigned to CHAC.

The analysis of the business model and JPA structure is underway with exploration of pathways to sustainable services. It is a work in progress, with direct input from your JPA representative, the full board, and the staff. I would be happy to meet with you to give you an update and will keep you apprised as key decisions are approved by the board.

FUNDING REQUEST FOR FY 2023-24

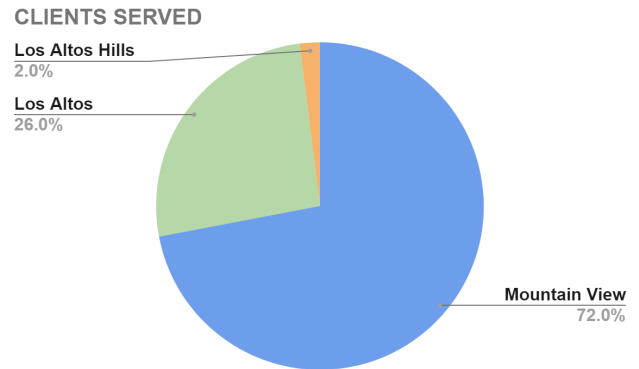
The CHAC Finance Committee has recommended that we request an increase in funding based on CPI (6%) from our municipal JPA partners during this time of transition. We anticipate the total agency budget to be around \$4M.

CITY	FY 22-23	FY 23-24
Los Altos	\$56,800	\$60,208
Los Altos Hills	\$34,000	\$36,040
Mountain View	\$128,000	\$135,680

Your funds will provide access to the following counseling and prevention services for your residents:

Counseling for Adults, Individuals, Couples & Families:

CHAC offers individual, couples, and family counseling, with multiple languages available in-person and over 300 for phone-based translation as needed. Counseling is provided by clinical interns under the guidance of CHAC’s Licensed Clinical Supervisors, whose areas of specialization cover a wide range of expertise. Clients reach out for support on how to address anxiety and depression, non-suicidal self-harm, grief and loss, conduct and externalizing behaviors, social skills, family conflict and risk assessment.



Assessments: The Assessment Clinic provides comprehensive psychological assessments using best-practice models and testing measures.

Teen Advisory Council: This active group of local teens promote, destigmatize, and advocate for the mental health of the communities’ youth while unifying youth and adult perspectives on mental health. It is led by a licensed Marriage & Family Therapist to ensure ethical and effective outreach.

Family Resource Centers (FRCs): FRCs primarily serve newcomer immigrant families. Our Mountain View sites offer classes, events, and individual consultations that foster healthy connections between parent and child and increase resilience in families. Supported primarily by First 5, FRC staff also train a dedicated group of volunteers—many of whom started as participants—to carry out our vision to encourage further community involvement as we support families with children ages 0-5 years old. They continue to provide distribution of essential products to our community.



CHAC’s School JPA Partners Fund Services to Youth and Parents at Los Altos School District, Mountain View Whisman, and MVLA:

- Implementation of School-based A-B-C Model: A for Access, B for Bridge to Families, Collaboration with school personnel.
- Prevention and Early Intervention: CHAC’s Prevention Plus school-based counseling program addresses social, emotional, and mental health issues affecting students’ ability to learn. CHAC’s theoretical framework is through a Family Systems perspective, whereby we provide ongoing support and coaching and/or referrals to the parents and consultation anytime during the duration of the therapy for a minor.

- Social Emotional Learning (SEL): Research shows that social emotional learning (SEL) improves academic achievement and increases prosocial behaviors such as kindness, sharing, and empathy; improves student attitudes toward school; and reduces depression and stress among students. CHAC offers innovative SEL programs targeted to help students succeed at various points during their elementary and middle school journeys.
- Crisis/Grief Support: CHAC counselors are poised to support school personnel—both on-site and out of our clinic—with additional staff and resources in responding to local, site-based, or family crises.

As we continue to deal with the aftermath of lockdown and the Covid19 pandemic, the need for mental health services continues to increase. CHAC provides access to a continuum of mental health services to foster an increasingly healthy, resilient, and connected community. Thank you for your partnership and leadership over our 50 year history. I look forward to discussing our funding request and to answer any questions you may have. We will continue to provide a quarterly report to you during the next fiscal year upon your request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anne Ehresman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Anne M. Ehresman, MSW
Interim Executive Director
anne.ehresman@chacmv.org

Cc: Parneet Dhindsa, Human Services Manager
Kimberly S. Thompson, Assistant to the City Manager

From: [Isaac](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Public comment on Item 6.2
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 10:24:28 AM

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Very disappointing to see the Downtown Office Cap is still alive, and even "Priority A"

The best possible outcome of the cap will be to waste staff time.

The most likely outcome is to push office development to other parts of the city.

Downtown Mountain View is the most transit-rich area in the region. If we push office development elsewhere it is harming our goals of sustainability and TDM. An office development in downtown will have a much lower environmental impact than the same office on Terra Bella or even San Antonio.

I, like many, am concerned about the jobs-housing imbalance. But an office cap does nothing to address this. Items 31, 32, and 33 will actually help. But they are Priority B, while the useless office cap is somehow Priority A. It is an outlier in an otherwise good and sensible document.

Finally, though less important than sustainability and housing the vibrancy of downtown is directly affected by office. The recent empty downtown offices are partially a cause of Castro being less vibrant during the day post-pandemic.

Please drop this item. There are many good things the city is pursuing and we don't have time or resources to waste on false solutions.

Thanks for all you do,
Isaac Stone

PS - Many other good things in the budget, but I was especially happy to read about the parental leave pilot program. It is a great thing to do to support our hard-working staff