



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

KATJANA BALLANTYNE
MAYOR

KARIN CARROLL
DIRECTOR



MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council Members
FROM: Karin Carroll, MPH – Director, Health and Human Services Department
DATE: May 1st, 2025
RE: Medicinal Marijuana Stabilization Funds Appropriation Request – FY2026

The City of Somerville's Health and Human Services Department requests **a total of \$228,000** from the Medicinal Marijuana Stabilization Funds to support youth-serving staff in FY2026. Out of school time opportunities, youth employment, in-school substance misuse support and structured, supervised activities all serve as vital buffers against increased exposure to substances and substance misuse.

We request **\$90,000** for FY2026 (salary of \$75,000) with an estimated fringe of 20% (\$15,000) for the **Out of School Time (OST) Coordinator (HHS)** and **\$90,000** for FY2026 (salary of (\$75,000) with an estimated fringe of 20% (\$15,000)) for the **Youth Workplace Learning Coordinator (YWLC) (HHS) positions**. Additionally, we request **\$48,000** for FY2026 (Salary of \$40,000) with an estimated fringe of 20% (\$8,000)) for the **Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention Specialist (School)**. The OST position will be responsible for working towards the goal of ensuring all K-8 students in Somerville, regardless of background or circumstances, have access to inclusive and culturally relevant OST programs that nurture their academic, social and emotional development. The YWLC will be critical to the success and expansion of the Mayor's Youth Jobs Initiative by providing year-round planning and support to the Summer Jobs Program as well as the newly developed school year jobs programming; from recruitment, hiring, onboarding and regular oversight of 18 students placed in the city in the first year. The YWLC coordinator is also responsible for curriculum development and oversight of student cohorts such as the Climate Cohort and the Social Justice Cohort. The SAPIS position will provide support for students and staff with drug and alcohol education, prevention, intervention and consultation. These key youth-serving roles provide programming and support known to mitigate risks associated with youth substance misuse.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Karin Carroll, MPH



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