



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Councilor Wilson, Chair
Finance Committee

FROM: Karin Carroll, HHS Director

DATE: March 6, 2023

RE: Request # 23-0162

Dear Councilor Wilson,

I would like to request Finance Committee approval to use available funds in the Health and Human Services Salaries Account in the amount of \$21,982 to fund an additional Case Manager position. Since January 1st, there has been an average of 10 referrals per week, many requiring long term case management or support.

Below are some of the most pressing issues generating additional referrals for case work in HHS:

- SNAP, DTA cash benefits, utility assistance, furniture resources, and health insurance.
- Displaced individuals and families because of fire, frozen pipes etc.
- Legal and Immigration cases. Referrals are made to SOIA; however, some cases require referrals beyond what SOIA can offer.
- Counseling and support for both adults and school aged children.
- Disability applications

A second Case Manager in HHS would allow us to increase the number of clients we are seeing without overburdening existing staff, including the Social Work staff. The addition of the second Case Manager position would allow us to connect with clients more quickly and begin working with them to address their specific needs.

Thank you for your consideration of this time-sensitive request.

Sincerely,

Karin Carroll, Director of Health and Human Services

