UVALDE CISD

TO: Members of the Board

FROM: Katie Hughes, Director of Recovery Services

PRESENTER: Katie Hughes, Director of Recovery Services

MEETING DATE: October 19. 2026

SUBJECT: Discuss to Approve the Handle with Care Program with Hill Country Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities with for the 2026 - 2027 school year (**Renewal - no cost)**

BACKGROUND:

Handle With Care is a collaborative initiative between Uvalde CISD (UCISD), Hill Country Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Centers (Hill Country MHDD), and local law enforcement agencies designed to support students who may be experiencing the effects of trauma or crisis. When law enforcement responds to an incident involving a school-aged child, a confidential notification is provided to designated district personnel, enabling schools to offer immediate, trauma-informed support without requiring details of the incident.

UCISD, Hill Country MHDD, and participating local law enforcement agencies have jointly developed the Handle With Care protocol as outlined in this Memorandum of Understanding. Following a law enforcement response involving a student, a confidential Handle With Care notification will be sent to the designated district contact as soon as practicable.

Upon receipt of the notification, UCISD will route the information to the appropriate campus point of contact to ensure that trauma-informed supports and accommodations can be provided to the student as needed. Consistent with the principles of the Handle With Care model, no details regarding the incident will be shared beyond the notification that the student should be "handled with care."

Hill Country MHDD and other designated behavioral health partners will conduct outreach to the student's family within 48 hours, when appropriate, to assess needs, provide support, and facilitate access to mental health services and community resources. Through this coordinated response, partners seek to promote student well-being, reduce barriers to learning, and strengthen the network of care available to children and families in the community.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the MOU with the Handle with Care Program with Hill Country Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities at no cost .

Superintendent's Recommendation: ✓ Approval _____ Rejected

Juan M Hinojosa

Dr. Juan M. Hinojosa, Interim Superintendent