

SUBJECT: Consideration and possible approval of an amendment to extend the Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and the Pasadena Independent School District to allow the continuation of campus presentations of the Youth Aware of Mental Health Program (YAM).

BACKGROUND: UTHHealth entered an MOU with Pasadena ISD for the 2024-2025 school year to provide interested secondary campuses the opportunity to host training and support via the Youth Aware of Mental Health (YAM) program. The YAM program has been well received by PISD campuses, students, and staff; therefore, we would like to extend this partnership. The YAM program is a universal prevention program for students in grades eight (8) through twelve (12). A certified facilitator and a trained helper will work with students. The program is offered at no cost to the school district and the estimated value of the program is incalculable when considering its correlation with healthy adolescent development, depression prevention through fostering resilience, and increased mental health literacy and help-seeking behaviors.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: None.

RECOMMENDATION: We recommend approval of an amendment to extend the Memorandum of Understanding between The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and Pasadena Independent School District to allow the continuation of campus presentations of the Youth Aware of Mental Health Program (YAM).

CABINET MEMBER(s): Alyta Harrell

CONTACT PERSON(s): Robin Harold

BOARD MEETING DATE: October 21, 2025