

RESOLUTION 2021-54

RESOLUTION OPPOSING FUNDING REDUCTIONS TO THE MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE NEW JERSEY GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021

WHEREAS, the Municipal Alliance Program is funded by the New Jersey Governor's Council of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (NJGCADA) to raise awareness and educate youth, parents, and community residents on the dangers of drug and alcohol use through essential community-based and school-based programs; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020 all funding for the Alliance Program was halted aside from County and Municipal Coordinator expenses; and

WHEREAS, this sudden freeze on Program funding prohibited the County from spending any remaining funds that were allotted for the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Governor Phil Murphy's revised budget for FY 2021 outlines significant reductions to the Municipal Alliance Program; and

WHEREAS, the State extended their fiscal year to September 30, 2020, and Monmouth County received a three-month extension to the grant that ended June 30, 2020 in the amount of \$70,554 and a new grant for the period from October 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 for \$211,662, resulting in a large decrease in funding to be allocated to Municipal Alliances; and

WHEREAS, Monmouth County has typically received a total of \$739,035 in grant money annually to fund the Municipal Alliances, with each participating town allotted a base amount of \$2,000, as determined by the County Alliance Steering Committee; and

WHEREAS, the remaining total funds are allocated to participating municipalities based on a formula dictated by the NJGCADA that is 66% of the town's population, 20% of the youth population, 10% of arrests, and 4% of substance use treatment admission; and

WHEREAS, the total award for Monmouth County has decreased significantly, nearly 72% meaning all towns have seen a significant reduction in funding; and

WHEREAS, for the upcoming fiscal year 2022, NJGCADA has informed the County that it is possible that there will be another decrease in funding; and

WHEREAS, these funding reductions are due, in part, to reduced revenues in the Drug Enforcement Demand Reduction account, which is funded through collected drug fines; and

WHEREAS, now, more than ever, funding to support substance use prevention programs is of the utmost importance, as the nation and the State of New Jersey are seeing a rise in substance use and overdose amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

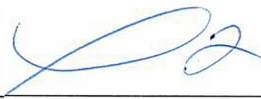
WHEREAS, the programs funded by the Municipal Alliance Program allow Monmouth County and surrounding counties to provide school and community evidence based drug and alcohol prevention education and awareness programs, which have been in effect since the 1980s.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of Colts Neck Township opposes the State of New Jersey’s reductions to the budget for Municipal Alliance Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of Colts Neck Township urges the Governor and State Legislature to provide supplemental funds to support the Municipal Alliance Program in order to ensure that local alliances can continue the important work they do for children and communities, especially amidst the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk forward a certified true copy of this resolution the New Jersey Secretary of State; the Governor of the State of New Jersey; the President of the New Jersey State Senate; the Speaker of the General Assembly; the Monmouth County Legislative Delegation; the New Jersey State League of Municipalities; the New Jersey Association of Counties and Municipal Clerks in surrounding towns in Monmouth County; the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners.

I, Trina Lindsey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and accurate copy of a Resolution passed by the Township Committee of Colts Neck Township during a regular meeting held on the 24th day of February 2021



Trina Lindsey, Municipal Clerk

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Viola		X			
Deputy Mayor Bartolomeo		X			
Fitzpatrick	S	X			
Torchia Buss	M	X			
Rizzuto		X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					