

Amendment 1: Restore School Based Mental Health Consultants / Health Department

The well-being of our children reflects the well-being of our community and right now there is an immediate and critical need to care for and invest in our school-aged children's mental health. School based mental health services and the mental health consultants that provide it are a life-line for the most vulnerable and marginalized students in the County and are disproportionately located in schools and districts in East Portland and East County to ensure children are able to access mental health services and supports so that they are able to learn and thrive.

Commissioner Brim-Edwards proposes an amendment that restores \$696,313 for 4.18 FTE School Based Mental Health Consultants. This program generates revenue, projected to be \$250,000. The remaining \$446,313 to restore School Based Mental Health Consultants would be offset by reducing one (1) new position and from the proposed new contracted services in the Health Department's Proposed Budget.

The amendment is co-sponsored by Chair Jessica Vega Pederson.