

**SUBMITTED BY:                   STEPHEN M. LANIER, VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH**

**UNIVERSITY CONTRACT WITH MICHIGAN CRISIS RESPONSE ASSOCIATION, INC.  
THAT A WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCES  
EMPLOYEE IS A VOLUNTARY, NON-PAID BOARD MEMBER OF**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Administration recommends the Board of Governors authorize the President or his designee to contract with *Michigan Crisis Response Association, Inc. (MCRA)* to provide Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) training to first responders (police, fire, dispatch, EMT, and corrections officers) throughout the state as a fulfillment of the MDHHS Frontline Strong Together grant funded through the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences in the School of Medicine.

**Background:**

Patricia Louise Dixon, LMSW, university counselor III, is a board member of the Michigan Crisis Response Association, MCRA, a non-profit, independent professional association overseeing critical incident response team registry as per Michigan Law Bill Number 444. At Wayne State, Ms. Dixon functions as the University Crisis Response Team Coordinator as part of her roll of University Counselor with Counseling and Psychological Services, CAPS. At CAPS she liaisons with the Wayne State Police Department and is listed as the clinical coordinator of the WSU PD Critical Incident Stress Management Team registered with MCRA. She is also the co-team leader for the Detroit WSU Midtown Collateralize CISM team with the Detroit Fire Department, Detroit Police and WSU Police.

Ms. Dixon joined the Department of Psychiatry's Frontline Strong Together Grant in May of 2021. Ms. Dixon is a trained and approved International Critical Incident Foundation and Mental Health First Aid Instructor for law enforcement, Fire, EMS and higher education. She has worked together with WSU PD to develop educational programing for Officers in the Department that supports their knowledge and use of effective interventions with people suffering from mental illness and officer wellbeing. Her work with the Midtown Collaborative Team supports the mission of the Frontline Together Strong Grant.

Ms. Dixon serves on the MCRA Board in a voluntary capacity as one of three regional representatives for the Homeland Security Region 2 South which includes WSU. She has held this voluntary board member position since January 2019. Ms. Dixon is not a paid member of the MCRA Board and will not draw any compensation from a contract between MCRA and Wayne State University. Her efforts will be supported by Wayne State University Counseling and Psychological Services and the Department of Psychiatry where she holds academic staff roles of a 70/30 split respectfully.

This consultancy has been reported to Wayne State in accordance with university policy.

Major milestones for this project include the following:

- Develop a statewide clearinghouse multi-faceted website managed by WSU.
- Peer support and training, ICISF/MCRA peer training, compassionate care training, and peer train the trainer programs for critical communication.
- Establish and maintain a project steering committee with representatives of WSU, WH, and first responder unions and leaders representing fire, police, EMT, dispatch, and corrections.
- Create, grow, and maintain a multidisciplinary statewide stakeholder collaborative resource group.
- Development of an app that allows therapists to employ augmented reality human avatar encounter scenarios to be used for training and treatment of PTSD.
- Tele-Health services for first responders and their families.
- Create a referral processes and screening component for first responders in collaboration with MICAL.
- Develop a statewide marketing and outreach promotion campaign.
- Design and implementation of police, firefighter, EMT, dispatch, and correction officer in service training programs.

Michigan Conflict of Interest law requires specific sunshine procedures in order for a university employee, or a company owned by a University employee, to contract directly or indirectly with the University:

- (A) The employee must disclose any pecuniary interest in the contract to the Board and the disclosure must be made a matter of record in the Board's proceedings.
- (B) The contract must be approved by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the full membership of the Board in open session.
- (C) The Board's minutes must report:
  - (i) The name of each party involved in the contract.
  - (ii) The terms of the contract, including duration, financial consideration between the parties, facilities or services of the public entity included in the contract, and the nature and degree of assignment of employees of the public entity for fulfillment of the contract.
  - (iii) The nature of any pecuniary interest.

If the Board approves this Recommendation, the minutes will report as follows:

The Board of Governors authorized the President, or his designee, to enter into a contract with MCRA totaling \$58,114 to Wayne State University. Current funding of the MDHHS Frontline Strong Together grant is \$1,00,000 for FY22 but may be increased to \$2,000,000 upon state approval of the allocation. If funds are increased on this project, Wayne State University will likely increase the MCRA contract to \$148,648 for additional critical incident advanced trainings for first responders.

- i. The parties involved in the contract are Wayne State University and the Michigan Crisis Response Association (MCRA). Patricia Louise Dixon, LMSW, university counselor III in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences, serves on the MCRA Board in a voluntary capacity and will be a regional representative for the Homeland Security Region 2 South.
- ii. The contract will provide:
  - a. Scope: MCRA will provide Critical Incident Response (CISM) training to first responders in Michigan as directed by the WSU Frontline Strong Team. CISM is a comprehensive, integrative, multicomponent crisis intervention system. First responders will include police officers, firefighters, EMT/EMS, corrections officers, and dispatchers. Completion of each of the CISM course will result in each participant receiving a certificate of completion from the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation Inc. (ICISF). CISM Training Sessions include basic group and individual crisis response (GRIN), advanced group response, advance individual response, advance strategic response to crisis, and suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention. First responders who complete each of the five classes and register a peer team with MCRA will be covered by the confidentiality and privileged communication for CISM Teams under Michigan Bill 444.
  - b. Term: The contract will have a term of one year from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022.
  - c. Financial Consideration: The contract to MCRA will total \$58,114, which covers 7 basic group and individual crisis response training sessions. Each session will certify 15 first responders, for a total of 105. There is a possibility of increased funding from MDHHS to enhance this program. If the funding is increased to \$2,000,000, WSU would amend the contract with MCRA to include additional trainings listed under paragraph a, which would increase the contract amount to \$148,648. Ms. Dixon is an unpaid member of the MCRA Board and will not draw any compensation from a contract between MCRA and Wayne State University.