



City of East Providence
Office of the Mayor
Roberto L. DaSilva
Mayor

March 31, 2026

RE: Letter of Support for Increased Funding for the GO TEAM® Program

Dear Chair O'Brien and Members of the House Finance Public Safety Subcommittee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the funding included in the Department of Public Safety Budget for the GO TEAM® program. I respectfully urge the subcommittee to increase this investment to \$760,000 in the FY27 budget. This enhanced funding will enable the program to maintain its existing partnerships while expanding into six additional Rhode Island communities, including East Providence.

As Mayor of East Providence, I have seen firsthand how critical immediate, trauma-informed support is for our residents during times of crisis. Whether responding to a violent incident, a traumatic event involving a child, or any situation that suddenly turns lives upside down, people need more than enforcement alone. They need compassionate, professional care delivered on scene, in real time, by experts trained to stabilize the situation and begin the path to recovery right away.

The GO TEAM® has provided this vital service for more than twenty years. It has proven its value time and again, from everyday emergencies to large-scale incidents involving mass violence. The program works because it meets people exactly where they are, at the moment they need help most.

Increasing the investment to \$760,000 represents a meaningful commitment to victims, families, first responders, and entire communities. For East Providence, this expansion would be transformational. It would strengthen our public safety system in a way that truly serves our residents by ensuring that trauma-informed care is available when and where it is needed.

I strongly urge the Committee to approve this funding increase and help bring the GO TEAM® to East Providence and to more Rhode Islanders who would benefit from its support.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Roberto L. DaSilva', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Roberto L. DaSilva
Mayor