



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: November 4, 2024

SUBJECT: Oregon Health Authority M110 BHRN grant application

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Move to authorize Juvenile Community Justice to apply for M110 BHRN funding from the Oregon Health Authority.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

In November 2020, Oregon voters passed Measure 110, the Drug Addiction Treatment and Recovery Act, aimed at better serving individuals actively using substances, engaging in substance misuse, or experiencing substance use disorders. Measure 110 also created the Oversight and Accountability Council (OAC), responsible for overseeing the implementation of Behavioral Health Resource Networks (BHRNs) starting in 2020, and approving funding to enhance access to community care, including Screening Services, Comprehensive Behavioral Health Needs Assessments, Ongoing Peer Counseling and Support, Harm Reduction Services, Information and Education, Low Barrier Substance Use Treatment, and Transitional and Supportive Housing for individuals with substance use issues. All services offered through these networks must be evidence-informed, trauma-informed, culturally and linguistically tailored, person-centered, nonjudgmental, and provided free of charge to clients.

In 2024, the OAC opened applications for a new cycle of BHRN funding for both current and potentially new providers of eligible services. Entities were asked to apply separately, not as one collaborative, which is new from the original solicitation. Deschutes County Behavioral Health (DCBH) applied and received BOCC approval for BHRN application on 08/19/2024 for staff to serve a mobile unit for unhoused population, an additional vehicle for south county supports, continued funding for existing BHRN-funded FTE, harm reduction supplies, and barrier removal.

The Board may recall from budget hearings and other venues that the Juvenile Community Justice division (Juvenile division) is planning and implementing to provide sustainable outpatient substance use disorder (SUD) treatment to juvenile-justice involved young people for whom quantity and quality of treatment is lacking in our region. As part of this

work, it came to the attention of Juvenile division staff two weeks before the BHRN grant was due that application criteria aligned with this SUD program development priority. The Juvenile division consulted the grant and applicant parameters, and seized the opportunity to submit an application October 3, 2024, pending BOCC approval, as the shortened timeframe for consideration did not allow for prior approval. Funding applied for includes:

- Existing FTE support for Juvenile Division Behavioral Health Supervisor (clinical and program oversight) and Behavioral Health Specialist (treatment)
- Contracted Costs required for Medical Director and Electronic Records System creation/management
- Contracted Costs required for Culturally Responsive Peer Recovery Mentors
- Administrative Costs

If funded, this support will allow stable program development and implementation of a sustainable SUD-specific treatment funding model through Medicaid reimbursement.

The Juvenile division is aware and supports that DCBH submitted a BHRN application for complementary services not related to juvenile-justice involved youth needing outpatient SUD-specific treatment. We have notified DCBH and discussed our application at length. DCBH supports the Juvenile division's efforts and abilities to provide SUD-specific treatment, and is offering technical and other assistance as experts in the world of Medicaid reimbursed and System of Care processes and requirements. It should be noted that the BHRN this funding cycle is a set amount of funding assigned per County stretched over four years. It is possible that only one of the County proposed projects gets funded or that projects receive less funding than requested. Currently there are 13 filled FTE in Health Services funded with BHRN dollars. If not funded at the current level, there would be a reduction in services related to homelessness, SUD support and crisis SUD services after hours. If the Juvenile division application is not funded our ability to design the foundations of a sustainable SUD-specific treatment program will be delayed or not possible to create, thereby continuing gaps in quality and quantity of SUD treatment for the region's juvenile-justice involved youth. The Juvenile division and DCBH appreciate the many mutual opportunities and supports each agency provides the other in service to our shared populations. We will continue this spirit of collaboration and support in all venues, throughout any ultimate outcome of BHRN funding.

At this time we seek BOCC approval for the application; should the BOCC not wish to authorize application for BHRN funding by the Juvenile division, we will work with Oregon Buys and OAC to withdraw.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

If approved, DCCJ would receive \$2,190,513 in funds over the four-year grant period. The period for the grant starts July 1, 2025.

ATTENDANCE:

Deevy Holcomb, Director of Community Justice
Trevor Stephens, Community Justice Business Manager