



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: July 23, 2025

SUBJECT: Notice of Intent to Award a contract for the Behavioral Health Deflection Program

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Move approval of Document No. 2025-606, a Notice of Intent to Award a contract for the Behavioral Health Deflection Program

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Pursuant to House Bill 4002 (2024), the Oregon Behavioral Health Deflection Program supports Oregon's federally recognized tribal governments and counties in the development and operation of "deflection programs," defined as a collaborative program between law enforcement agencies and behavioral health entities that assist individuals who may have substance use disorder, another behavioral health disorder or co-occurring disorders, to create community-based pathways to treatment, recovery support services, housing, case management or other services.

The purposes of Corrections Justice Commission's Behavioral Health Deflection Program include:

- Addressing the need for more deflection programs to assist individuals whose behavioral health conditions, including substance use disorder, lead to interactions with law enforcement, incarceration, conviction and other engagement with the criminal justice system; and
- Tracking and reporting data concerning deflection program outcomes to determine the best practices for deflection programs in Oregon.

The objectives of the program include:

- Reduce incarceration rates.
- Divert eligible individuals from arrest or jail to treatment programs.
- Provide immediate support.
- Offer timely access to treatment, detoxification, and other support services.
- Improve public safety.
- Address substance use disorder to reduce crime rates.
- Enhance community health.

- Improve overall health outcomes for individuals with substance use disorder.

The Department issued a request for proposals (RFP) for the project on May 7, 2025 and then reissued a request for proposals on June 13, 2025 due to insufficient response. Two proposals were received in response to the RFP on or prior to the RFP closing date of June 20, 2025, from the following firms:

Ideal Option/BestCare Treatment Services, Inc.
Central Oregon Peer Services (COPS)

The Department scored the proposals using a qualifications-based selection process (see attached for the scoring summary). Based on this process, staff recommends that Ideal Option and BestCare Treatment Services, Inc. working as a partnership ("Consultant") be selected as the top-ranking proposer.

The Notice of Intent to Award Contract will assert the County's intent to award a contract to the Consultant and will begin a one-week protest period for interested parties to submit written protest of contract award. If no protests are received during that period, the contract will be awarded administratively.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

Pending the grant award, the County will complete negotiations with Ideal Option and BestCare Treatment Services, Inc. and enter into a services contract.

ATTENDANCE:

Captain Michael Shults, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office
Deputy Neil Marchington, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office
Heather Herauf, Procurement Manager, Finance Department

Scoring Summary

Name of Project:		Behavioral Health Deflection Program RFP			
Date:		June 27, 2025			
Scoring Team					
		Evaluator 1	Evaluator 2	Total pts	
	Ideal Option/BestCare	59	62	121	
	Central Oregon Peer Svs.	57	54	111	
Ascending Ranking (lowest total is 1, best score is highest number)					
		Evaluator 1	Evaluator 2	Total pts	
	Ideal Option/BestCare	2	2	4	
	Central Oregon Peer Svs.	1	1	2	