



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: March 20, 2024

SUBJECT: Oregon Health Authority Community Navigator Pilot grant and Resolution No. 2024-006 to effect associated budgetary and staff changes

RECOMMENDED MOTIONS:

- 1) Move to accept a Community Navigator Pilot grant from the Oregon Health Authority.
- 2) Move approval of Resolution No. 2024-006.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Deschutes County Health Services (DCHS) recommends Board approval to accept a \$1,000,000 Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Community Navigator Pilot grant. The term of the grant-funded program would be April 2024 through June 2025. Associated Resolution No. 2024-006 would increase appropriations and FTE within the Health Services Fund and the 2023-24 Deschutes County Budget in conjunction with the grant acceptance.

OHA's Community Navigator Pilot program will consist of six Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CMHP) sites that will provide a two-person Community Navigator (CN) team. The team will consist of a forensically trained Peer Support Specialist and a forensically trained Case Manager. The CN team will provide up to three months in-reach, transitional care at discharge, and six months post-discharge for individuals on Aid and Assist (AA) orders leaving the Oregon State Hospital. This study models its intervention protocols on Evidence Based Practices (EBPs) not limited to: Critical Time Intervention (CTI), Peer Support Specialists, Intensive Case Management, and Trauma-Informed Care.

The primary goal of this pilot program is to reduce rates of recidivism for individuals, especially those at risk of homelessness, on AA orders from involuntary state hospitalization. The secondary goal of the pilot is to effectively decriminalize mental and substance use disorders, by assessing the impact of Community Navigator teams in stabilizing the behavioral health needs of individuals re-entering community-based services.

Funding from this grant would support the following personnel:

- 1.0 FTE Peer Support Specialist – New FTE (April 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025)
- 1.0 FTE Administrative Analyst – New FTE (April 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025)
- 1.0 FTE BH Specialist I

- 0.3 FTE BH Specialist II, Licensed
- 0.4 FTE BH Supervisor
- 0.5 FTE Public Health Nurse II

The Peer Support Specialist and Administrative Analyst positions will be new limited duration FTE. The FTE resolution is attached. In addition to personnel, the grant will fund contracts for shelter services; client stabilization, including guardianships; training; furniture/fixtures; computers and peripherals; cell phone services; a new vehicle; and 10% indirect.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

Recognize State Miscellaneous revenue of \$209,113 for FY 2024 (the remaining amount to be received in the next fiscal year) and increase Program Expense appropriations by the same amount within the Health Service fund.

ATTENDANCE:

Kara Cronin, Manager, Behavioral Health Program
Dan Emerson, Budget & Financial Planning Manager