



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: February 23, 2022

SUBJECT: Request approval to apply for Oregon Health Authority Mental Health block grant funds.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move approval to apply for Oregon Health Authority Mental Health block grant funds.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Oregon Health Authority received \$3 million in stimulus funding through the American Rescue plan and 2020 COVID Relief Bill that increased mental health block grant funds, with 10% of Mental Health Block Grant Funds going to Early Assessment Support Alliance (EASA). Application can be made for stimulus funding up to \$150,000, and funds must be used by 9/30/2025 for the purposes of addressing health care disparities by:

- Help finding a vaccine
- Help getting health care coverage
- Help buying food
- Help with rent
- Help with employment
- Addressing substance use disorders
 - Overdose prevention
 - Harm Reduction

Deschutes County EASA, offers early intervention to young adult's ages 12-27 experiencing their first episode of psychosis in Deschutes Crook and Jefferson Counties. Spanning over 7,834 square miles, the EASA team conducts education, outreach, community visits and offers in clinic visits.

Funding through EASA stimulus funds will be used to increase emergency shelter placements for young person experiencing their first episode of psychosis, promoting stabilization, reducing hospitalization and risk for acute care support. Additionally,

stimulus funding will aid in addressing health care disparities by allowing flexible funding to purchase food, clothing, cell phones and technology to support treatment and providing alternative transportation options. Finally funding will be used to address the National Opioid crisis, through Harm Reduction Training for clinicians as well as procurement of Fentanyl Strips to assess for synthetic opioids prior to use; potentially saving lives through prevention.

See budget below for a breakdown of activities across 3 years.

Name	Service	2023	2024	2025	Total
Program Funds (1)	Client Support	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$6,000
Fentanyl Test Strips (2)	Harm Reduction	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$3,000
Rental Assistance (3)	Client Support	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$5,250
Emergency Lodging (4)	Evaluation Services, Salary	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$105,000
Training (5)	Clinical Services		\$15,000		\$15,000
Admin (6)	Indirect Costs	\$4,417	\$6,083	\$4,417	\$14,917
			TOTAL REQUEST		\$149,167

BUDGET IMPACTS: \$149,167 revenue

ATTENDANCE:

Janice Garceau, Deputy Director, Behavioral Health Division
 Shannon Brister, Program Manager