



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: May 29, 2024

SUBJECT: Oregon Criminal Justice Commission Deflection Program grant and Resolution No. 2024-031 adding 1.0 Behavioral Health Specialist II FTE as of June 1, 2024

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

- 1) Move to accept Oregon Criminal Justice Commission Deflection Program grant funding in the amount of \$378,336.
- 2) Move approval of Resolution No. 2024-031.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Deschutes County Health Services (DCHS) is seeking approval to accept Oregon Criminal Justice Commission's Deflection Program funding in the amount of \$378,336.

State of Oregon House Bill (HB) 4002 created a new misdemeanor for possession of a controlled substance. HB 4002 offers pathways to expungement, dismissal, or no charges filed, and encourages distract attorneys and law enforcement to divert a person, in lieu of arrest or prosecution, to a deflection program. A deflection program is a collaborative effort between law enforcement agencies and behavioral health systems that strives to aid individuals in receiving treatment, recovery support services, housing, case management, and/or other services.

On April 17, the Board of County Commissioners gave DCHS approval to apply for deflection funding. The initial application for funding has been awarded and DCHS seeks approval to accept this initial 50% of funding. As previously mentioned, DCHS will be required to complete a second grant application to secure the remaining \$378,336 of funding once program details have been developed.

DCHS intends to use the funding to develop, coordinate and implement a deflection program with public and community partners, and hire a new 1.00 regular FTE Deflection Program Coordinator. The Deflection Program Coordinator will be responsible for convening program partners as needed for the operation of the program, managing grant program funds, and tracking and reporting data required by the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, including providing notification that a person has completed the program to those entities responsible for sealing records. Should funding no longer support the

position, DCHS will consider the future of this position within the budgeting process.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

Revenue of \$378,336 for the period through June 30, 2025 and 1.00 Behavioral Health Specialist II FTE as of June 1, 2024. No budget adjustment is necessary in FY24. If approved, Personnel Services appropriations will be increased for FY25 during the budget adoption on June 24, 2024.

ATTENDANCE:

Holly Harris, Behavioral Health Director

Dan Emerson, Budget & Financial Planning Manager