



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

# AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** December 21, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Request approval to apply for OHA Workforce Incentives grant

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

Move approval to apply for a OHA Workforce Incentives grant in the amount of \$883,216 to increase access to services, provide supervised clinical experience, and increase training for and improve recruitment and retention of behavioral health care providers

**BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has made available grant monies through HB 2949 (2021) (as updated by HB 4071 (2022)). The purpose of the funding is to a) support the recruitment and retention of behavioral health providers and b) provide supervised clinical experience necessary for behavioral health providers to obtain a license to practice. Funding is being distributed by OHA to Community Mental Health Programs, using an equitable formula, with \$625,286 available to Deschutes County Health Services (DCHS) for workforce incentives and \$257,930 for Clinical Supervision.

**Program Goals are as follows:**

- Increase access to services that are peer and community driven and that provide culturally specific and culturally responsive services for people of color, tribal communities, and persons with lived behavioral health experience.
- Increase access to services for rural and underserved communities
- Increase the number of individuals training for and entering the field of behavioral health and improve the recruitment and retention of behavioral health care providers.
- Provide supervised clinical experience to associates or other individuals who have the necessary education but need supervised clinical experience to obtain a license to practice

If approved, DCHS plans to use the "Incentive" funding to incentivize recruitment and retention to the south part of Deschutes County with housing stipends or other supports, expand part-time opportunities, expand tuition reimbursement options, offer stipends to licensed staff who provide internship supervision, and for program administration.

“Clinical Supervision” funding would be used to cover stipends offered to licensed clinicians that provide licensure supervision to individuals outside of their own team.

**BUDGET IMPACTS:**

\$883,216 revenue if awarded and approved.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Holly Harris, Interim Deputy Director, Health Services