



## AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** February 7, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Community Navigator Pilot grant from the Oregon Health Authority

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

Move to authorize the submittal of an application for a Community Navigator Pilot grant from the Oregon Health Authority.

**BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Deschutes County Health Services (DCHS) is seeking approval to apply for 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.

OHA's Community Navigator Pilot program will consist of six Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic 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 is to reduce rates of recidivism for individuals, especially those at risk of houselessness, on AA orders from involuntary state hospitalization. The secondary goal 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 communities-based services.

If approved, funding from this grant would support the following personnel:

- 1.0 FTE Peer Support Specialist – New FTE
- 1.0 FTE Administrative Analyst – NEW FTE
- 1.0 FTE BH Specialist I
- 0.2 FTE BH Specialist II, Licensed
- 0.2 FTE BH supervisor
- 0.5 FTE Nurse

The Peer Support Specialist and Administrative Analyst positions would be new limited

duration FTE. 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. If approved, budget and FTE resolutions will be forthcoming.

**BUDGET IMPACTS:**

\$1,000,000 revenue if approved. See attached five-year fiscal analysis.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Kara Cronin, Manager, Behavioral Health Program  
Holly Harris, Behavioral Health Director