



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: July 27, 2022

SUBJECT: Consideration Chair signature of Document No. 2022-653, an Oregon Health Authority Grant Agreement for Community Mental Health Programs

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move approval of chair signature of Document No. 2022-653

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Senate Bill 295 (SB295) calls for Community Mental Health Programs (CMHPs) to utilize community restoration options for defendants not needing a hospital level of care, whether determined directly from court or as a step-down from Oregon State Hospital (OSH). The number of individuals being admitted to the OSH, after being found unfit to proceed, is at an unsustainable level, and it is becoming increasingly challenging for Community Mental Health Programs (CMHPs) to find the appropriate and available services outside of the hospital setting.

Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is providing funding to CMHPs to increase capacity for community restoration for those found unfit to proceed. The funds can be used to create or enhance programs and services that support individuals to remain in the community and out of the hospital. The goals of this agreement are to:

1. Reduce the number of individuals found unfit to proceed via diversion efforts;
2. If unable to divert, decrease the number of those who are referred and admitted to Oregon State Hospital (OSH) for restoration services (i.e., increase capacity for effective community restoration services directly from custody and as step-down from OSH);
3. For those ultimately admitted to OSH, reduce the lengths of stay.

Deschutes County Behavioral Health (DCBH) is the Community Mental Health Program providing safety net and core clinical services for community members in Deschutes County dealing with mental health and substance use conditions. DCBH provides specific and sustainable programming to address the specific needs of the Aid to Assist population (those found unfit to proceed) and is able to streamline access to culturally appropriate services for this marginalized group. Strategies and preferred practices for community restoration services, outlined by Oregon Health Authority (OHA), will be followed.

OHA is providing funding in the amount of \$430,778 for the term of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. This funding will help to cover current costs of services that were expanded to address this population. \$320,262 of funding will be used to cover three Intensive Forensic Services Team positions, a Behavioral Health Specialist I, Behavioral Health Specialist II, and a Peer Support Specialist, \$71,354 will support a contract agreement with Bethlehem Inn to reserve shelter beds for Aid to Assist discharges and community restoration clients, and \$39,162 (10%) will be used for indirect administration costs.

OHA will make quarterly payments of \$107,694.50 contingent upon receipt and approval of Deschutes County's invoice and reporting submissions.

BUDGET IMPACTS: \$430,778 revenue for the period July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

ATTENDANCE:

Kara Cronin, Behavioral Health Program Manager