



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

# AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** October 9, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Oregon Health Authority Behavioral Health Initiative for Older Adults

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

Move approval to apply for Oregon Health Authority Older Adult Behavioral Health Initiative funding.

**BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Oregon Health Authority's (OHA) Older Adult Behavioral Health Initiative was launched to meet the needs of Oregon's older adults by improving timely access to care from qualified providers who work to provide coordinated and culturally-responsive behavioral health and wellness services. OHA currently funds and supports specialists who are trained in social work or psychology and who work to: promote collaboration and coordination among core stakeholders and partners; provide complex case consultation for older adults and people with disabilities; and offer community education along with workforce development training to professionals. OHA has requested that Deschutes County Health Services (DCHS) take on this scope of work.

DCHS is requesting approval from the Board to apply for \$120,000 of funding to support a new 1.0 FTE Behavioral Health Specialist II position and 15% indirect costs. This person would perform the duties described above and additionally provide direct care to older adults whose situations warrant it. If the funds are awarded, DCHS will return to the Board for approval to accept the funding and add the position.

**BUDGET IMPACTS:**

If awarded, \$120,000 revenue for fiscal year 2025 for the term November 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Kara Cronin, Behavioral Health Program Manager