



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

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TO: Conan Smith, Chair
Ways and Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel
County Administrator

FROM: Donna Sabourin, Director
Community Support and Treatment Services

DATE: April 15, 2009

SUBJECT: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Justice
and Mental Health Collaboration Program Grant

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

It is requested that the Board of Commissioners ratify the electronic application submission to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance for expansion of the Jail Diversion Program in the amount of \$286,968 for the period of October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2011. It is further requested that the Board of Commissioners authorize the creation of an additional 0.5 FTE Mental Health Nurse position contingent upon receipt of the grant award.

BACKGROUND:

Homelessness, poverty and jail overcrowding have reached an unprecedented level in Washtenaw County. Approximately 17,000 Washtenaw County residents have a serious and persistent mental illness; further Michigan Department of Community Health estimates that approximately 31,000 residents live with alcohol or drug abuse dependency. This population regularly has contact with the criminal justice system and frequently re-offends. Gaps in service to this population and a chronically overcrowded jail contribute to the barriers preventing positive change. Individuals with mental illness are incarcerated at a higher rate than other populations. The prevalence of co-occurring disorders among this population is significant. Overcrowding has compromised the mental health team's ability to meet the needs of the mentally-ill inmate forcing the team to respond only to the inmates with the most emergent needs; yet, overcrowding impacts everyone negatively. Staff consistently report disproportionately greater

impact on the most vulnerable who are ill-equipped to tolerate an over-crowded facility.

The Washtenaw County Administrator and the Board of Commissioners have made a significant commitment to address the need for jail diversion and mental health services to inmates over the past several years. Washtenaw County Community Support and Treatment Services, (WCCSTS), has initiated an enhanced jail diversion program, Justice Project Outreach Team, JPOT, based on the Sequential Intercept Model with funding provided directly by the Board of Commissioners. The incarceration of the mentally ill and those with co-occurring disorders emerged as a critical issue through the Public Safety and Justice Community of Interest; the application for grant funding will expand the capacity of the current programming.

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of the project is to increase public safety through collaborative efforts of the justice system and the community mental health system to provide a complete team based continuum of services for a vulnerable at-risk population. The funding for the implementation and expansion project will solidify and expand services to eliminate the criminalization of the mentally ill in the Washtenaw County Jail. The expansion of services will address gaps in the current model including: 1) Increase in-jail psychiatric assessments and treatment and reduce wait time from the current 20 day period to reach the goal of the American Psychiatric Association task force on correctional mental health that “the fundamental goal for correctional mental health care is to provide the same level of mental health services to each patient in the criminal justice process that should be available in the community”; 2) Increase Psychiatric nursing services to allow for health and nutritional education and medication management, all vital services for successful re-entry into the community; 3) Increase trauma therapy groups for women to reduce the wait list for this service.

IMPACT ON HUMAN RESOURCES:

CSTS is requesting an existing .50 FTE Mental Health Nurse position be increased to a 1.0 FTE. This additional .50 FTE position creation will be grant status and is contingent upon receipt of the grant award. An existing Psychiatrist position will be utilized to provide an additional five hours of service per week in the jail.

IMPACT ON BUDGET:

Total grant budget is \$286,968. This is made up of \$200,000 funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program and \$86,968 of in-kind support provided by Community Support and Treatment Services. In-kind support is provided by current staff that is a part of the J-Port program.

Contingent upon demonstrated effectiveness of this initiative at the end of the second year of the grant CSTS will submit requests for continuation funding to their two major funders.

IMPACT ON INDIRECT COSTS:

None.

IMPACT ON OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OR OUTSIDE AGENCIES:

“JPORT: Off the Beaten Path” builds upon the Justice Project Outreach Team (JPORT) to support collaboration between law enforcement, the judiciary, community corrections, and community mental health to provide a team-based continuum of services and supports the community vision of health and well-being for every citizen.

CONFORMITY TO COUNTY POLICIES:

This request is in conformance with County policies.

ATTACHMENTS/APPENDICES:

Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant Packet

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE ELECTRONIC APPLICATION SUBMISSION TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE, JUSTICE AND MENTAL HEALTH COLLABORATION PROGRAM FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND TREATMENT SERVICES' J-PORT: OFF THE BEATEN PATH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$286,968 FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2009 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2011; AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE NOTICE OF GRANT AWARD; AMENDING THE BUDGET; CREATING A .50 FTE MENTAL HEALTH NURSE POSITION CONTINGENT UPON RECEIPT OF THE GRANT AWARD; AND AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN DEEGATE CONTRACTS

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 6, 2009

WHEREAS, Community Support and Treatment Services currently operates a jail diversion program as part of Public Safety and Justice Recommendations; and

WHEREAS, homelessness, poverty and jail overcrowding have reached an unprecedented level in Washtenaw County, approximately 17,000 Washtenaw County residents have a serious and persistent mental illness, further Michigan Department of Community Health estimates that approximately 31,000 residents live with alcohol or drug abuse dependency; and

WHEREAS, this population regularly has contact with the criminal justice system and frequently re-offends along with gaps in service to this population and a chronically overcrowded jail contribute to the barriers preventing positive change; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the project is to increase public safety through collaborative efforts of the justice system and the community mental health system to provide a complete team based continuum of services for a vulnerable at-risk population; and

WHEREAS, the funding for the implementation and expansion project will solidify and expand services to eliminate the criminalization of the mentally ill in the Washtenaw County Jail; and

WHEREAS, the expansion of services will address gaps in the current model including: protecting the public safety by early intervention, increasing in-jail psychiatric assessments and treatment, and increasing psychiatric nursing services available in the community to allow for health and nutritional education and medication management once individuals leave the jail; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by Corporation Counsel, the Finance Department, Human Resources, the County Administrator's Office, and the Ways and Means Committee.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the electronic application submission to the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice, Justice and Mental Health Collaboration program in the amount of \$286,968 for the period of October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2011 as on file with the County Clerk.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners takes the following actions contingent upon the receipt of the grant award in conformity with the grant application:

1. Authorizing the Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award
2. Amending the budget, as attached hereto and made a part hereof
3. Authorizing the administrator to sign delegate contracts in conformity with the application/award upon review of Corporation Counsel, to be filed with the County Clerk
4. Authorizing the creation of a grant status .50 FTE Mental Health Nurse position contingent upon receipt of the grant award.

<u>Position#</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Create</u>
2346-0020	Mental Health Nurse	23	11	.50

CSTS
"JPORT: Off the Beaten Path"
2932098110

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Revised</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Revenue:			
50000 Federal Revenue	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000
69000 In-Kind	\$0	\$ 86,968	\$ 86,968
Total Revenue	\$0	\$286,968	\$286,968
Expenditures:			
70050 Personal Services	\$0	\$130,140	\$130,140
72600 Supplies	\$0	\$ 4,390	\$ 4,390
80000 Other Services & Charges	\$0	\$ 65,470	\$ 65,470
93500 In-Kind Charges	\$0	\$ 86,968	\$ 86,968
Total Expenditures	\$0	\$286,968	\$286,968
Indirect Costs		\$0	