COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Behavioral Health Division Administration
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: October 8, 2012

TO: Peggy Romo-West, Chairwoman – Health & Human Needs Committee

FROM: Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Prepared by Paula Lucey, Administrator, Behavioral Health Division

SUBJECT: Revised Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, Requesting Authorization to Enter Into a Professional Service Contract with the Planning Council for Health and Human Services for the Behavioral Health Division

Issue

Section 56.30 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances requires County Board approval for professional services contracts of $50,000 or greater. Per Section 56.30, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting authorization to enter into a 2012 professional services contract with the Planning Council for Health and Human Services to assist the Behavioral Health Division (BHD) with the allocation of the remaining $1,114,296 related to the Mental Health Community Investment.

Background

The 2012 BHD Budget included over $3 million for a Mental Health Redesign and Community Resource Investment, which included six specific initiatives aimed at expediting the necessary groundwork for a mental health system more reliant on community resources and less reliant on inpatient care: a community-based crisis stabilization program, an additional stabilization house, increased community crisis investment, a crisis resource center expansion, a developmental disabilities-mental health pilot respite program and a quality assurance component. In July 2012, BHD presented a status update report regarding the actions that had been taken related to those budget initiatives and indicated that BHD was working on a plan to spend the one-time funds that remained. BHD returned to the Health and Human Needs Committee in September 2012 with a proposal to enter into a professional services contract with the Planning Council for the remaining funds. The Health and Human Needs Committee reviewed the original report and referred it back to County Board and BHD staff. Since that time, BHD and County Board staff has discussed the issue and BHD is now coming forward with a revised report and resolution for consideration.

Discussion

After the July Health and Human Needs committee meeting, BHD met with various community stakeholders, including the Mental Health Redesign Task Force and brainstormed multiple ideas for investments for the remaining funds. BHD, after several discussions with the Task Force members, established a set of priorities for the funds. However, in order to maximize the impact of the $1.1 million, and in recognition of the complexity of soliciting bids and entering into various contracts, BHD determined that the best course of action was to return to the Board to request that the Planning Council of Health and Human Services act as a fiscal agent for the remaining funds. BHD plans to have the Planning Council establish the funds in a separate account and then BHD will work with them to fund the list of priorities, as detailed below, in a longer time frame.

All of the initiatives are consistent with the Mental Health Redesign Action Team recommendations presented to the Health and Human Needs Committee in January. BHD has also met with a group of community stakeholders to review the revised list of priorities.

Priorities
As mentioned above, BHD and the Mental Health Redesign Task Force established a list of priorities, with funding allocations, for the remaining funds. Below is a detailed listing:

I. Certified Peer Specialists Pipeline Program

Target launch date: January 2013 - First Pipeline Program group of CPS deployed
Estimated cost: $200,000
Recommendations addressed:

- HRSI Recommendation 6.3: Expand peer support and consumer-operated services
- Mental Health Redesign: Person-Centered Care and Continuum of Care Action Team recommendations

Program Description

Through the Certified Peer Specialist (CPS) Program, Milwaukee County will help improve and systematize the training, certification, development and employment of CPS in Milwaukee County.

II. Step-down Housing Alternative

Target launch date: February 2013 – Opening of Step-Down Housing
Estimated cost: $100,000
Recommendations addressed:

- HRSI Recommendations: 7.1.1 Integrated Community Housing; 7.3 Homeless System Partnership
- Mental Health Redesign: Community Linkages Action Team

Program Description

The Step-Down Housing Alternative will fill a gap that currently exist in services by providing an additional resource in the housing continuum for those who are being discharged from inpatient settings or transitioned from homeless situations. The funds will be used for the County to takeover and renovate existing housing at the Autumn West location that is being vacated by Community Advocates.

III. Case Management Expansion

Target launch date: May 2013 – Client capacity expanded by two caseloads
Estimated cost: $400,000
Recommendations addressed:

- HRSI Recommendations: 7.2 Expand Permanent Supportive Housing
- Mental Health Redesign: Community Linkages Action Team

Program Description

Two additional caseloads will be developed in collaboration with community stakeholders in order to fill needs that are not currently being met and make the services available to a larger client base.

IV. Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Employment

Target launch date: June 2013 - First pipeline group of CPS available
Estimated cost: $125,000
Recommendations addressed:

- HRSI Recommendations 5.4 Expand evidence based practices; 6.2 Increased education and services
- Mental Health Redesign: Workforce Action Team

Program Description

IPS (Individual Placement and Support) refers to the evidence-based practice of supported employment that helps people with co-occurring disorders work at competitive employment jobs. The funds will help provide in-depth training, embedded employment specialists and transitional paths to employment.

V. Supportive Living Units

Target launch date: August 2013 – New units ready and available
Estimated cost: $200,000
Recommendations addressed:

- HRSI Recommendations: 7.2 Expand Permanent Supportive Housing
- Mental Health Redesign: Community Linkages Action Team

Program Description

These additional supportive housing units represent a continued investment of funds for additional community-based supportive living units with on focus a suburban sites.

VI. Additional Investments

The remaining funds, a total of $89,296, will be used for new investments as identified and approved by BHD and the Mental Health Task Force that fit with the overall goals of this initiative. In addition, BHD will pay the Planning Council a fee of $500.00 per month until the all the initiatives are fully implemented, for an estimated fee of up to $7,000.

Milwaukee County Contract Administration staff will take the lead, working with the Planning Council, to develop any necessary Request for Proposals, establish any contracts, meet DBE goals and follow all applicable County rules. Due to the timeframe for this initiative and the importance of getting the funding into the community, BHD is requesting to allow the Planning Council to serve as the fiscal agent. The Planning Council has been a good partner to BHD and has assisted with the Mental Health Redesign Task Force and BHD feels they are a good fit for

this project. The Planning Council does not provide any direct mental health services to clients and therefore is a neutral party to serve in this role. BHD will report to the Board on a quarterly basis with updates regarding this funding.

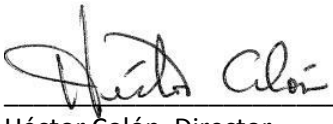
Recommendation

It is recommended that the County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, or his designee, to enter into a professional services contract with Planning Council for Health and Human Services starting November 1, 2012 through December 31, 2013 for $1,114,296, of which they will be paid $500 per month in fees for serving as the fiscal agent.

Fiscal Effect

All of the funds were included in the 2012 BHD Budget and are detailed on the attached spreadsheet. There is no tax levy impact that results from this initiative. A fiscal note form is attached.

Respectfully Submitted:



Héctor Colón, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive Chris Abele
Chairwoman Marina Dimitrijevic – Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Tia Torhorst, County Executive's Office
Kelly Bablitch, County Board
Pat Farley, Director – DAS
Craig Kammholz – Fiscal & Budget Administrator - DAS
CJ Pahl, Assistant Fiscal and Budget Administrator – DAS
Antionette Thomas-Bailey, Fiscal and Management Analyst – DAS
Jennifer Collins, County Board Staff
Jodi Mapp, County Board Staff