COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Behavioral Health Division Administration
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: November 26, 2012

TO: Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

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

SUBJECT: **Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, Requesting Authorization to Enter Into 2013 Purchase of Service Contracts for the Behavioral Health Division for the Provision of the Mental Health Community Investment Initiative**

Policy Issue

Section 46.09 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances requires County Board approval for the purchase of human services from nongovernmental vendors. Per Section 46.09, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting authorization to enter into 2013 purchase of service (POS) contracts with community agencies related to the Mental Health Community Investment Initiative for the Behavioral Health Division (BHD). Approval of the recommended contract allocations will allow BHD to continue the initiatives started in 2012 related to these funds, which are also closely aligned with the Mental Health Redesign Task Force Action Plan.

Discussion

The 2012 and 2013 BHD budgets included over $3 million for a Mental Health Redesign and Community Resource Investment, which included six specific initiatives: 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. BHD issued an RFP on March 12, 2012 for Stabilization House, the Crisis Resource Center and the Community Linkage and Stabilization Program (CLASP). These contracts were awarded per County Board approval in June 2012 and the allocations detailed below continue these services.

Community Linkages and Stabilization Program (CLASP)
CLASP provides post-hospitalization extended support and treatment designed to support an individual's recovery, increase ability to function independently in the community and reduce incidents of emergency room contacts and re-hospitalizations through individual support from Certified Peer Specialists under the supervision of a clinical coordinator. CLASP provides a safe, welcoming and recovery-oriented environment, and all services are delivered in a person-centered, trauma-informed, culturally competent, and recovery oriented focus of care. Based on the request for proposal (RFP) process, La Causa, Inc. was the agency awarded the CLASP

contract. BHD recommends a 2013 contract for $404,714, including funds for a Stabilization Coordinator position.

Crisis Resource Center (CRC)

The CRC serves adults with mental illness and may include individuals with a co-occurring substance use disorder who are experiencing psychiatric crises. The CRC is a safe, welcoming and recovery-oriented environment for people in need of stabilization and peer support to prevent hospitalization. All services are delivered in a person-centered, trauma-informed, culturally competent and recovery oriented focus of care. Based on a competitive RFP to establish a CRC on the north side of Milwaukee County, Community Advocates was awarded a contract in 2012. For 2013 BHD recommends a POS contract with Community Advocates for $850,000 for the North side CRC. (The South side CRC contract is included on the Mental Health Community Services POS Report)

Stabilization House

Stabilization House services serve adults who live with a mental illness or co-occurring substance use disorder and are in need of further stabilization after an inpatient hospitalization. It is also warranted for individuals who are awaiting a residential placement and require structure and support to ensure a smooth transition into the residential placement. Stabilization House services may also provide temporary supported accommodation for people with mental health needs during a crisis or when they need respite from living at home. Based on a competitve RFP, Bell Therapy, Inc was awarded the Stabilization House contract in 2012. BHD is recommending a 2013 POS contract for $298,000 for Bell Therapy. (BHD maintains two other Crisis Stabilization homes and those contracts are included in the Mental Health Community Services POS Report)

Individual Placement and Support (IPS)

Developed by Dartmouth University, IPS is an evidence-based practice of supported employment that helps individuals with a severe mental illness or with co-occurring disorders work at competitive employment jobs. The funds will help provide in-depth training and consultation by David Lynde from Dartmouth University for agencies interested in utilizing the IPS model and to embed employment specialists within those agencies to achieve transitional paths to competitive employment. BHD is recommending a contract with St. Charles Youth and Family Services of $87,500 for this service.

Peer Specialists

Horizon Healthcare supports the operation of the Office of Consumer Affairs at BHD. As part of the Mental Health Redesign, Horizon Healthcare will continue to work to develop the peer specialist network. In an effort to increase consumer participation in BHD activities, Horizon Healthcare will have a mechanism for the reimbursement of these activities and will ensure that consumers shall be compensated for time and expenses in a timely and professional manner. This service was RFP'd in July 2012 and the selected vendor, Horizon Healthcare, receives $60,000 annually for these activities.

WRAP Development
The Grand Avenue Club is champion in the use of a tool called the Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP), which empowers consumers to make decisions about their own care in advance of any crisis situation. Grand Avenue will recruit and select three certified Peer Specialists to attend the educational program at the Copeland Center and become Certified WRAP facilitators. BHD is recommending a contract with Grand Avenue of $30,000 for this service.

Overall, BHD is recommending total contracts of $1,730,214 for 2013 related to the Mental Health Community Investment initiative. In addition, in the Disabilities Services Division, there is a $250,000 contract for a Crisis Respite Home for clients with DD and mental health issues. The remaining funds are dedicated to the Milwaukee Police Department initiative brought to the Board in September 2012 and various positions for quality assurance and staffing related to the above mentioned initiatives.

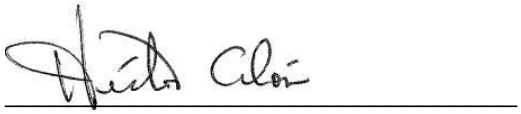
Recommendation

It is recommended that the County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, DHHS, or his designee, to enter into 2013 purchase of service contracts for the provision of the Mental Health Community Investment Initiative with provider agencies for the time period of January 1 through December 31, 2012 with the contractors listed and in the amounts specified in the attached resolution. Approval of the recommended contract allocations will allow BHD to continue the initiatives started in 2012 related to these funds, which are also closely aligned with the Mental Health Redesign Task Force Action Plan

Fiscal Effect

The total amount of $1,730,214, as recommended in these contracts has been included in BHD's 2013 Budget. A fiscal note form is attached.

Respectfully Submitted:



Héctor Colón, Director
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