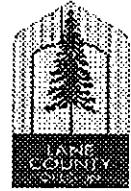


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AGENDA COVER MEMO



AGENDA DATE: July 28, 2004

TO: Board of County Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: Health & Human Services

PRESENTED BY: Rob Rockstroh

AGENDA TITLE: ORDER / IN THE MATTER OF SUBMITTING A GRANT APPLICATION TO NORTHWEST HEALTH FOUNDATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$90,000 TO PROVIDE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR HOMELESS, RUNAWAY AND AT-RISK YOUTH.

I. MOTION

ORDER / In the Matter of Submitting a Grant Application to the Northwest Health Foundation in the Amount Of \$90,000 to Provide Mental Health Services for Homeless, Runaway, and At-Risk Youth.

II. ISSUE OR PROBLEM

Lane County has been invited to submit a grant application by the Northwest Health Foundation for providing mental health services for homeless, runaway, and at-risk youth. In order to submit this application, the County Administrator must have delegated authority to sign it.

III. DISCUSSION

A. Background / Analysis

Safe & Sound, a project of the Human Services Commission, provides a continuum of services for homeless, runaway, and at-risk youth. Funding for behavioral health services includes medical, mental health, and substance abuse services, and is provided by a variety of public and private sources including the Human Services Commission, City of Eugene, and Meyer Memorial Trust and others. In addition, the behavioral health services will receive funding through partnership with the Community Health Centers of Lane County by billing for some services through Medicaid. Funds sought from the Northwest Health Foundation will provide services and allow time to transition to billable services over the next three years.

Many runaway and homeless youth in Lane County do not access the existing mental health system despite the prevalence of mental health problems and psychosocial stressors for youth on the streets. The purpose of the mental health

component of the Safe & Sound Youth Project is to promote the behavioral health of runaway and homeless youth in Lane County by utilizing a positive youth development approach and a harm reduction model as well as individual treatment. This is accomplished through a collaborative system of providers that includes the following objectives:

1. Increase runaway and homeless youths' awareness of mental health issues and the impact of homelessness on mental health;
2. Furnish easy-to-access mental health services for youth where multiple services are offered, positive youth development is promoted, and services are available regardless of health insurance status;
3. Lift barriers to the existing mental health system for homeless and runaway youth through systems change efforts with The Lane County Child & Adolescent Behavioral Health Program, and at the State level with Oregon Medical Assistance Program, as well as on-going community education and advocacy efforts; and
4. Establish strategies to maximize federal reimbursement options.

Mental health treatment is provided in conjunction with supportive services, including health care, substance abuse services, sexual assault/abuse/exploitation support services, case management, outreach, emergency shelter, transitional housing, education, and other appropriate services and resources.

Mental health and substance abuse among homeless and runaway youth present serious barriers to leaving street life. Safe & Sound evaluation data show that 41 percent have mental health problems and more than 75 percent of surveyed youth are drug and alcohol involved. This particularly vulnerable population presents some unique challenges for service delivery. Youth are often alienated, lack healthy adult guidance, receive inadequate medical treatment, and lack housing stability. Services are often fragmented and inaccessible to them. The local system capacity cannot adequately meet the increasing and complex needs of these vulnerable youth.

Runaway, homeless, and street youth often delay health care until serious illness occurs necessitating hospital emergency room treatment. Local needs are beyond the capacity of Lane County Mental Health who serves approximately 400 of the estimated 4,700 mentally ill youth, ages 10-17, in the county. Runaway or homeless street youth are often not stable enough to attend regular medical and mental health appointments in traditional treatment settings. In response, the Safe & Sound Youth Project provides a continuum of services designed to bring behavioral health staff and services to locations where youth congregate. The Safe & Sound Medical Clinic provides emergency, primary, and preventive medical care at three accessible sites and coordinates treatment with mental health and substance professionals.

Administrative Policies and Procedures Questions for Grant Applications

- 1. What is the match requirement, if any, and how is that to be covered for the duration of the grant?**

There is not a match requirement for this grant.

- 2. Will the grant require expenditures for Material and Services or capital not fully paid for by the grant?**

No additional expenses for the grant are required.

- 3. Will the grant be fully expended before county funds need to be spent?**

This funding will provide an interim method to cover the cost of this service. The plan is to be able to bill for the services, which will not require County funds to be spent on this service.

- 4. How will the administrative work of the grant be covered if the grant funds don't cover it?**

The administrative work of the grant will be paid for all out of the current Human Services Commission administrative budget.

- 5. Have grant stakeholders been informed of the grant sunset policy so there is no misunderstanding when the funding ends? Describe plan for service if funding does not continue.**

Yes, the Safe & Sound partners are involved in the planning process for identifying the gaps in services and developing the means to meet those gaps. If the grant application is not successful or if funding is eliminated, the partners have agreed to seek other sources of funding for the services described in the application to Northwest Health Foundation.

- 6. What accounting, auditing and evaluation obligations are imposed by the grant conditions?**

Current County accounting and auditing standards will be applied to the grant. The grant proposal requires methods for evaluating goals & objectives including a plan for carrying out an evaluation of the project.

- 7. How will the department cover the accounting, auditing, and evaluation obligations? How are the costs for these obligations covered, regardless whether they are in the department submitting the grant or a support service department? Does the department acknowledge that the county will need to cover these costs and it is an appropriate cost incurred by support services departments?**

The HSC currently has a management information system, which is continuing to be developed. The FQHC has an OCHIN software system that tracks patient information. The system and the current FQHC staff also provides for billing for services. Current HSC administrative staff will be doing the grant monitoring and reporting which they have done for other grants which will be ending during this time period. The current Safe & Sound PSC will provide evaluation of the grant services.

8. Are there any restrictions against applying for the county full cost indirect charge?

County indirect charges are covered with other federal, state, and local funding.

9. Are there unique or unusual conditions that trigger additional county work effort or liability, i.e., maintenance of effort requirements or supplanting prohibitions or indemnity obligations?

No.

B. Alternatives / Options

1. To approve the order thereby allowing the opportunity to secure funding for mental health services for homeless, runaway, and at-risk youth.
2. Not accepting the additional revenues will reduce the ability to provide mental health services for homeless, runaway, and at-risk youth in our community.

C. Recommendation

To approve the motion above. This will allow Lane County to provide mental health services for homeless, runaway, and at-risk youth in our community.

D. Timing

The application will be submitted immediately upon approval by the Board of County Commissioners

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

Upon approval by the Board of County Commissioners the Northwest Health Foundation application will be submitted.

V. ATTACHMENTS

Board Order

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION)
AND ORDER:)
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)

WHEREAS, Lane County provides services for runaway and homeless youth through a collaborative effort called the Safe & Sound program; and

WHEREAS, In Lane County many runaway and homeless youth do not access the existing mental health services; and

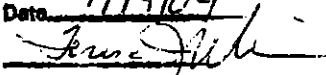
WHEREAS, it is necessary to seek additional funding to provide mental health services for homeless and runaway youth; and

WHEREAS, Northwest Health Foundation has funding for the provision of mental health services.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Board of County Commissioners delegate authority to the County Administrator to sign an application and subsequent agreements with Northwest Health Foundation for funding for Mental Health services in the amount of \$90,000 over a period of three years.

DATED this ____ day of July 2004.

Bobby Green Sr., Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM
Date 7/19/04

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL