

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: October 26, 2012

TO: Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Kerry Mitchell, Director, Department of Human Resources

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

SUBJECT: **From the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, Requesting Authorization to Create one position of RN 2 and one position of Behavioral Health Emergency Service Clinician for the Crisis Mobile Team at the Behavioral Health Division**

Issue

The Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Administrator, Behavioral Health Division (BHD), are requesting authorization to create one position of RN2 and one position of Behavioral Health Emergency Service Clinician (BHESC) for the Crisis Mobile Team at BHD. The 2012 BHD Budget included a \$3 million Mental Health Redesign initiative meant to increase community capacity for adult mental health services and reduce the reliance on inpatient hospitalization. One of the initiatives included in the investment was the development of additional community crisis options, specifically an expansion of the Crisis Mobile Team. This request is associated with this initiative.

Background

The Crisis Mobile Team has been in existence for over 15 years in Milwaukee County. The Crisis Mobile Team works exclusively with individuals age 18 and over and their role is to respond to behavioral health crises in the community. A key component to this response is the evaluation of emergency detentions. Currently, the Mobile Crisis Team is comprised of RNs, BHESCs, and a psychologist.

In September 2012, BHD presented a report to the Health and Human Needs Committee outlining a proposed expansion of the Mobile Crisis Team, including a new agreement with the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD). That informational report mentioned that BHD would be returning to the board to create the new positions associated with this initiative. BHD is now requesting the creation of one RN2 who will have two main functions: one is to function as a 3rd shift transfer coordinator to further facilitate transfers to private hospitals; and two the position will respond to private hospital emergency rooms for Emergency Detention

evaluations, extending the Mobile Crisis Team response capability to 3rd shift. BHD is also requesting the creation of one BHESC who will be assigned to the Mobile Crisis team and will work together with the MPD officer to respond to needs in the community. This new team will be first responders to calls that are behavioral health emergencies. A clinical presence in these types of situations is a standard practice throughout the country. Wisconsin is one of very few remaining states where the decision to detain is made exclusively by law enforcement.

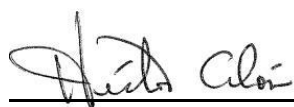
Recommendation

To assist BHD in fully implementing the Mental Health Redesign initiative through the development of additional community crisis options, including the expansion of the Mobile Crisis Team the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, or his designee, to create two positions beginning on January 1, 2013, as follows:

Position Description	Pay Range	FTE	2012 Fiscal Impact	2013 Annual Impact
Create				
RN 2	18N	1.00	\$0	\$ 83,767
BHESC	24	1.00	\$0	\$ 74,340
Total Cost of Positions			\$0	\$ 158,106

Fiscal Impact

The recommended position actions contained in this report have been included in the 2013 Recommended Budget related to the Mental Health Redesign initiative, therefore no additional tax levy is needed.



Héctor Colón, Director
Department of Health & Human Services

- cc: County Executive Chris Abele
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