

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Behavioral Health Division Administration
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: November 26, 2012

TO: Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairperson – Milwaukee County Board

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 Increase the 2012 Purchase of Service Contract with Community Advocates for the Behavioral Health Division

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. No contract or contract adjustment shall take effect until approved by resolution of the County Board. Per Section 46.09, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting authorization to increase the 2012 purchase of service (POS) contract with Community Advocates related to start-up costs for the Northside Crisis Resource Center (CRC) at the Behavioral Health Division (BHD).

Background

The 2012 BHD budget 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 a CRC and Community Advocates was awarded a contract through a report approved by the Board in June 2012.

The CRC serves adults who reside in Milwaukee County who live with a mental illness and are in need of crisis intervention and/or short-term community-based stabilization rather than hospitalization. The CRC serves adults with mental illness, including individuals with a co-occurring substance use disorder who are experiencing psychiatric crises. All services are delivered in a person-centered, trauma-informed, culturally competent, and recovery oriented focus of care.

The CRC started accepting clients in September 2012. Although the facility opened earlier this year, it was always planned and included in the proposed budget that the Northside CRC would

undergo improvements to the building located at 2511 West Vine in order to create a facility that is handicapped accessible according to both state and local regulations. The Northside CRC has adjusted its Community Based Residential Facility (CBRF) licensure to become compliant with those regulations and is ready to move forward. Improvements to the facility will include the addition of an ADA accessible bathroom with shower, modifications to two resident rooms to allow for wheelchair access and an existing ramp will be updated and a second ramp will be added to the back of the facility. The cost of this project which includes permits, labor, material, equipment and supervision, will not exceed \$102,000.

This initiative is consistent with recommendations of the Mental Health Redesign Task Force and is included in the budgeted fund for 2012. This investment will improve access to psychiatric care to individuals with physical disabilities. Currently there are very limited opportunities for individuals that require wheelchairs to access services that focus on diversion to inpatient levels of care. Upon completion of this project, access to this very important resource will be possible.

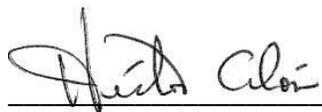
Fiscal Effect

Funds are included in the 2012 BHD Mental Health Investment Initiative for this project. Various bids were solicited for the work and reviewed by a panel including BHD and Community Advocates staff. Community Advocates anticipates completing the work before the end of the year. There is no tax levy effect. A fiscal note form is attached.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, DHHS, or his designee, to increase the Community Advocates purchase of service contract by \$102,000 to a total of \$527,000 for the CRC for the time frame of December 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012.

Respectfully Submitted,



Héctor Colón, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive Chris Abele
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