

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Behavioral Health Division Administration
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: June 19, 2012

TO: Supervisor Peggy Romo-West, Chairperson, Health and Human Needs Committee

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

SUBJECT: From the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, Providing an Informational Report on Wraparound Milwaukee's Selection to Provide Assessment and Case Management Services through the Family Intervention Support and Services Program

Issue

The Family Intervention Support and Services (FISS) Program is designed to provide services to adolescents who are experiencing behavioral problems, truancy issues, academic-related problems, runaway behavior and parent/child conflicts. In the past, the State of Wisconsin has contracted with providers for two separate components of the FISS program: assessment services and case management services. Wraparound Milwaukee has been a provider of the case management services for the past eight years. Due to a change in the RFP process in 2012, Wraparound Milwaukee will now contract with the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families for both FISS assessment and case management services.

Background

The Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare (BMCW) initiated the FISS program in February 2001 in collaboration with Milwaukee County Children's Court and the Delinquency and Court Services Division. The FISS program's main purpose has been to assess the individual needs of families with an adolescent evidencing behavioral and mental health problems and linking the child and family to appropriate services and resources to avoid court intervention.

In January 2004, the Department of Health and Family Services - Division of Children and Family Services issued a Request for Proposal to solicit a single contractor to provide FISS assessment services and a single provider to provide on-going FISS services to families. The Wraparound Milwaukee Program submitted a proposal and was eventually selected to provide only the on-going FISS services. Wraparound Milwaukee was again chosen by the State to provide these same services in 2008 for another three years. Perez-Pena, Inc. was chosen to provide the initial assessment services for FISS.

In 2012, the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families chose to issue an RFP for a single vendor to provide both the assessment portion of FISS and the actual delivery of on-going services to FISS families. The idea was to improve the continuity of care to families by having a single

provider who would do both services.

Wraparound Milwaukee bid on the newly re-designed RFP for these services and finished first among all submitting agencies. On June 6, 2012 the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families notified BHD of its intent to award the FISS contract to Wraparound Milwaukee.

Milwaukee County families have greatly benefitted from the FISS services provided by Wraparound Milwaukee because of the intensive case management, comprehensive service array available from our Provider Network and ability to link families needing long-term mental health and supportive services for their child and family to Wraparound Milwaukee and particularly our voluntary REACH Program. The State has also been pleased that FISS families can be linked to our mobile crisis team (MUTT) and particularly to crisis 1:1 stabilizers to work with families who need support, skills development and techniques to work with children with serious behavioral needs.

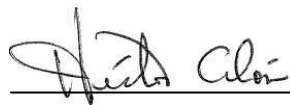
It is estimated there will be 853 assessments annually under the expanded FISS program. The current FISS program has a program coordinator and a full-time psychologist provided by Wraparound Milwaukee and paid for with State and Medicaid funding. In addition, Wraparound Milwaukee contracts with St. Charles Youth and Family Services to provide case management services. St. Charles Youth and Family Services will provide the additional staff needed to offer assessment services through existing contracts.

The expanded FISS program will continue to be housed at BHD in space leased by St. Charles, which is ideally located adjacent to the Mobile Urgent Treatment Team. Assessment hours will include Saturdays, which will give families additional access to scheduling appointments convenient to their work schedules.

BHD currently receives about \$540,000 in revenue for the FISS program. Under the new contract with the State, this amount will be increased to \$746,375 for the period July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013. The additional revenue and offsetting expenditures for the expanded FISS program will be added to the 2013 Budget. All additional expenditures from the FISS expansion will be covered by State and other revenues, resulting in a zero tax levy impact. If necessary, a fund transfer to recognize this revenue and the related expenditures will be completed later in 2012.

Recommendation

This is an informational report. No action is necessary.



Héctor Colón, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive Chris Abele
Tia Torhorst, County Executive's Office
Kelly Bablich, County Board

Patrick Farley, Director, DAS

Craig Kammholtz, Fiscal & Budget Administrator, DAS

CJ Pahl, Assistant Fiscal & Budget Administrator, DAS

Antionette Thomas-Bailey, Fiscal & Management Analyst, DAS

Jennifer Collins, Analyst, County Board Staff

Jodi Mapp, Committee Clerk, County Board Staff