

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Behavioral Health Division Administration
Inter-Office Communication

DATE: February 25, 2013

TO: Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman – 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 Purchase of Services Contracts with Milwaukee Mental Health Associates and Bell Therapy/Phoenix Health Care to administer the activities for the expansion of case management services as part of the Mental Health Redesign at the Behavioral Health Division**

Issue

In October 2012, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) – Behavioral Health Division (BHD) received authority from the County Board (File 12-709) to enter into a professional services contract with Planning Council for Health and Human Services starting November 1, 2012 through December 31, 2013 for \$1,114,290 to provide specific programs related to the Mental Health Redesign Initiative. The programs were Peer Specialist Pipeline, Step-Down Housing Alternative, Case Management Expansion, Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Employment, and Supportive Housing Units. BHD planned to come to the Board for approval and then have the Planning Council establish agreements with specified vendors for all of the above mentioned services using these funds. Due to the nature of Targeted Case Management (TCM) services, which are billable Medicaid benefits and are a carve-out benefit, the County is responsible for the nonfederal share for the cost of the services. The nonfederal share **must** be public funds and private agencies may not provide the nonfederal share for TCM services. Therefore BHD is requesting that the Board allow the Planning Council to release these specific funds back to BHD for case management services and then allow DHHS-BHD, under Section 46.09 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances which requires County Board approval for the purchase of human services from nongovernmental vendors, to increase the purchase of services contracts with Milwaukee Mental Health Associates (MMHA) and Bell Therapy/Phoenix Health Care for Targeted Case Management Services (TCM) from April 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013. Case management expansion is a goal of the Mental Health and Redesign Implementation Task Force.

Discussion

TCM is a modality of mental health practice that addresses the overall maintenance of a person with mental illness. This modality includes, but is not limited to, addressing the individual's physical, psychological and social environment with the goal of facilitating personal health,

community participation, empowerment and supporting an individual's recovery. Funds were dedicated to case management expansion as part of the above mentioned Mental Health Community Reinvestment funds. In addition, in December 2012 the County Board approved the creation of a "Targeted Case Management Step-Down model" (File 13-25) herein referred to as Recovery Case Management. BHD is now requesting an increase to various purchase of service contracts to reflect both the case management expansion and the Recovery Case Management initiatives. Input and recommendations to address the case management expansion were sought and obtained from the Continuum of Care Action Team of the Mental Health Redesign and Implementation Task Force. The co-chairs and members of that action team are in agreement with the following recommendations for case management expansion.

Currently, BHD has a wait list for TCM Level I services of nearly thirty (30) individuals. This is the first time in over a year that a wait list exists for TCM Level I. Placing those individuals on the wait list into immediate care is of the utmost importance to their health and overall well-being. Utilizing the results of the TCM request for proposal issued by the Department of Health and Human Services in July 2012; BHD is recommending adding Bell Therapy/Phoenix Healthcare as a Level I TCM provider and ensuring adequate funding to assume two caseloads of clients to immediately alleviate the TCM wait list issue. Caseloads in TCM Level I are established at a 1:25 ratio. The recommended contract with Bell Therapy/Phoenix Healthcare would allow for an additional 50 slots for TCM Level I care.

Often times, there are clients who require less intensive services than what is provided in TCM Level I. As detailed in the 2013 Budget, BHD is requesting to pilot a less intensive level of TCM called Recovery Case Management for individuals who require case management services as a condition of their residential living arrangement such as shelter plus care, permanent supported housing or a supported apartment. BHD is recommending adding Milwaukee Mental Health Associates as the Recovery Case Management provider and ensuring adequate funding for one caseload of clients at a newly established ratio of 1:40. MMHA would realign their existing case management caseloads and identify those clients that could benefit from the Recovery Case Management level of care.

Fiscal Effect

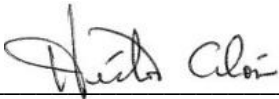
Funds for these services are included in the Planning Council allocation and the 2013 Budget. Based on the requirement that the nonfederal share must be public funds and private agencies may not provide the nonfederal share for TCM services, BHD is requesting that \$125,000 in funds be directed from the Planning Council to BHD, with \$100,000 going to Bell Therapy/Phoenix Health Care for TCM Level 1 and \$25,000 going to MMHA for Recovery Case Management. In addition BHD is requesting that \$25,000 in 2013 Budgeted funds be allocated to the Recovery Case Management pilot program. BHD will oversee these contracts to ensure that Bell Therapy/Phoenix Health Care and MMHA adheres to the performance measures and contract administration requirements and oversight currently included in all purchase of services contracts with the Department of Health and Human Services.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, DHHS, to allow the Planning Council to release \$125,000 to the Behavioral Health Division for case management expansion to ensure that the nonfederal share for case management is public funds.

It is further recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, DHHS, or his designee, to increase the purchase of services contract with Bell Therapy/Phoenix Healthcare by \$100,000 for TCM Level I expansion for the time period of April 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 and to increase the purchase of service contract for Milwaukee Mental Health Associates by \$50,000 for TCM – Recovery Case Management for the time period of April 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013.

Respectfully Submitted,



Héctor Colón, Director
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