

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: March 15, 2011

Consent Regular
 Ordinance Public Hearing

Department:

Submitted By: PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

Submitted For: PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

MOTION AND TITLE: Staff recommends motion to: (A) Receive and file the Department of Children and Families grant for \$455,295 for the Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Act Program for the period of July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013; (B) Approve a Memorandum of Understanding for Implementation Grant with the Department of Children and Families for the period of July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013 to establish a supportive housing for homeless leaving the jail; and (C) Approve a Budget Amendment of \$455,295 in the Criminal Justice Grant Fund to establish funds for this grant project.

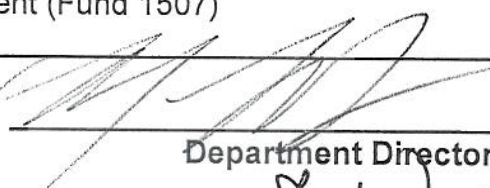
SUMMARY: Palm Beach County has received a direct award of \$455,295 under the Department of Children and Families Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Act Program for supported housing for those leaving the jail that are homeless with a mental health and substance abuse disorder with a focus for custodial parents. Programs will be administered jointly by the Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) and the Oakwood Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc. Local match requirement of 100% is stipulated by DCF. The match is being provided through community resources from the Sheriff's Office (\$129,378; in-kind), Public Defender's Office (\$3,000; cash), Oakwood Center of the Palm Beaches Inc. (\$122,253; in-kind), Comprehensive Alcoholism Rehabilitation Programs Inc. (\$226,927; in-kind), and the Drug Abuse Foundation (\$47,450; in-kind). The amount of overmatch is \$73,713. Countywide (GB)

BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION: Beginning in June 2008 the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Planning Council worked on a one-year planning grant that was used to develop partnerships and strategies to identify and divert adults and juveniles with mental health and substance abuse issues out of the criminal justice system. Work to complete the Strategic Plan was funded by the Florida Reinvestment Act grant awarded by the Florida DCF. Under this grant program, the County's Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse (CJMHS) Planning Council completed a comprehensive strategic plan that included fifty-two strategies ranging in areas of: juvenile justice; law enforcement and emergency services; booking and initial appearance; jails and courts; community reentry and community corrections and community support. This project will address implementation of Palm Beach County's Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Strategic Plan (2009), Intercept 4 and 5 (Re-entry and Community Supports), Strategy 14. Strategy 14 proposes to expand transitional and permanent housing so that homelessness is decreased and increased stability in the community occurs. This project seeks to provide for nine supportive housing placements for homeless dual-diagnosed persons transitioning from the County Jail.

Attachments:

1. Grant Award Letter and Information
2. 3 Originals of Memorandum of Understanding for Implementation Grant
3. Budget Amendment (Fund 1507)

Recommended by:

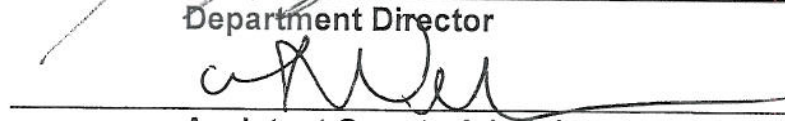


Department Director

2-25-11

Date

Approved By:



Assistant County Administrator

3-14-11

Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Capital Expenditures	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating Costs	\$328,101	\$328,101	\$328,101	_____	_____
External Revenues	<\$151,765>	<\$151,765>	<\$151,765>	_____	_____
Local Match (Cash)	<\$1,000>	<\$1,000>	<\$1,000>	_____	_____
Local Match (In-kind)	<\$175,336>	<\$175,336>	<\$175,336>	_____	_____
NET FISCAL IMPACT	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	=====	=====
# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)	<u>0</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____

Is Item Included In Current Budget? Yes _____ No X

Budget Account No.: Fund _____ Dept. _____ Unit _____ Object _____

Program Code _____ Program Period _____

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Criminal Justice Grant Fund (1507) unit 7689

C. Departmental Fiscal Review: *ms 2/22/11*

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:

MS 3/10/11

 OFMB
JS 3/2/11 SW 3/10/11 2/28/11 2/25/11

Dr. J. Jacobson 3/14/11

 Contract Dev. and Control
E. Jones 3/14/11

B. Legal Sufficiency:

MS 3/14/11

 Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

 Department Director

(THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT.)

Background and Policy Issues (continued):

The County Pretrial Services Division reports that 4.5% of the inmates interviewed for pretrial services were homeless in the past year. Palm Beach County's Continuum of Care, 2009 Point in Time Count, revealed 49 unsheltered households with children. Of the County's 1,407 unsheltered persons, 122 were severely mentally ill, and 237 had chronic substance abuse problems. This project will focus on providing housing and supportive services for homeless persons with co-occurring disorders being released from the County jail with an emphasis on custodial parents. Due to the size of this grant, the CJC sought to select a more limited population on which to focus resources. Almost three quarters of mothers who are homeless meet criteria for at least one lifetime mental disorder (including post-traumatic stress disorder), substance use disorder, or both, with lifetime substance use disorder rates almost twice as high as in the general female population. Parents must have stable housing to regain full custody of their children and supportive housing will mitigate many of the barriers to treatment that parents experience, and may serve as an incentive to move forward in treatment. Additionally, children will benefit from reunification with a parent, and the flexibility of housing placement will allow for children to continue in existing schools and support networks.

Palm Beach County shares local and state concerns regarding criminalization of persons with mental health disorders and dual substance abuse disorders, and recognizes the critical need to implement viable options to incarceration for this vulnerable population. Each day, the County houses over 400 people with some form of mental health problem in its jails, the vast majority of whom will be quickly discharged back into the community without adequate services to prevent re-incarceration. Furthermore, over 2,300 individuals are incarcerated on any given day due to substance abuse problems.

For many individuals unable to access care in the community, the only options to receive treatment is by accessing care through some of the most costly and inefficient points of entry into the healthcare delivery system including emergency rooms, acute crisis services, and ultimately the juvenile and criminal justice systems. Furthermore, according to the County's Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness, while there are many presumed causes of homelessness, a lack of affordable health care, domestic violence, mental illness and addiction disorders among them, two leading factors are most often cited: a lack of affordable housing and an increase in poverty, both of which are prevalent in the Palm Beach County community. Once released from incarceration, those with mental health and substance abuse disorders that are homeless have an increased risk of recycling through the justice system due to a lack of housing and support. This situation becomes more complicated when the individual is a custodial parent.

Project Approach

This project proposes to provide a safe, stable living environment for individuals with mental illness and/or substance abuse disorders who have been recently released from jail with an emphasis on those who are custodial parents. The project will also provide linkages to mental health and/or substance abuse treatment and ancillary social services, such as benefits qualification, transportation, medical care, job training and placement and specialized support for pregnant women.

Purpose, Goals, and Objectives

Purpose: Further Palm Beach County's Strategic Plan by providing supportive housing placements.

Goal: Reduce re-entry into the criminal justice system by those with mental illness and/or substance abuse disorders.

Objective 1: Fund 6 supportive housing placements for homeless persons recently released from jail.

Objective 2: Provide substance abuse and/or mental health treatment to program participants

Objective 3: Provide benefits qualification and ancillary social services for program participants

Objective 4: Develop a cost-savings analysis of program at end of 3 year period, utilizing historic data of program participants previous tenure in jail/hospital/mental health facilities

Benchmark: Recidivism of 20% or less.

Benchmark: 75% of those individuals who are employable will be employed, seeking employment, or enrolled in an educational/vocational program.

Benchmark: 55% of those who are housed at least 60 days will have an increase in income linked to entitlements and or government benefits or through employment.

Benchmark: 75% of individuals who are housed at least 60 days will exhibit a reduction in utilization of deep-end/acute mental health/substance abuse/criminal justice facilities for 1 year.