Agenda Item No.: 3E-1

## PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

## **AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

| Meeting Date:                                 | March 10, 2020                        | [X] Consent<br>[ ] Ordinance | [ ] Regular<br>[ ] Public Hearing |
|---|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Department<br>Submitted By:<br>Submitted For: | Community Services Community Services |                              |                                   |
|   |                                       |                              |                                   |

#### I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

**Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to approve:** a Letter of Agreement with the State of Florida Department of Health (FDOH) in which the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) agrees that the Needle Exchange Program (NEP) established by The Palm Beach County Infectious Disease Elimination Ordinance (R-2019-026) will operate in accordance with the Requirements of Section 381.0038(4), Florida Statutes (2019).

Summary: In July of 2019, the BCC adopted the Infectious Disease Elimination Ordinance pursuant to Section 381.0038(4), Florida Statutes (2019), the State's Infectious Disease Elimination Act (IDEA). As required by the IDEA, the County's ordinance contains conditions precedent to establishing an NEP in the County. The first of those conditions precedent requires the BCC to establish a letter of agreement with the FDOH in which the BCC agrees that the NEP will operate in accordance with the requirements of the IDEA. The attached Letter of Agreement between the FDOH and the County satisfies this condition precedent. No County funds are required for the operation of the needle exchange program, as they are expressly prohibited by IDEA. Countywide (HH)

Background and Justification: In June of 2019, The Florida Legislature approved the IDEA, as codified in Section 381.0038(4), Florida Statutes, authorizing the BCC to establish a sterile needle and syringe exchange program within its geographic boundaries with the goal of eliminating infectious diseases, including HIV and Hepatitis C. In July of 2019, the BCC adopted the Infectious Disease Elimination Ordinance which is applicable in unincorporated Palm Beach County and all municipalities within the County that have not adopted an ordinance in conflict. The ordinance provides for an NEP that allows a one-to-one exchange of used needles and syringes for sterile needles and syringes, as approved by the IDEA. The Center for Disease Control states that such needle exchange programs have proven to increase entry into substance use disorder treatment, reduce needle stick injuries to first responders, reduce overdose deaths, and save health care dollars by preventing infections and preventing HIV and viral Hepatitis. Staff is working with the FDOH-Palm Beach County seeking ongoing advice, consultation, and recommendations for the operation of the NEP pursuant to the IDEA and County ordinance. The final condition precedent to establishing the NEP is the approval of an Operator's contract by the BCC.

| Attachment: Letter of Agreement with the FDOH |                                |                       |
|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Recommended by:                               | یہ ع                           | عرائي (عنوان)<br>Date |
| Approved by:                                  | Assistant County Administrator | 2/22/20<br>Date       |

## II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

## A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

| Fiscal Years                              | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|
| Capital Expenditures                      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Operating Costs                           |      |      |      |      |      |
| External Revenue                          |      |      |      |      |      |
| Program Income (County)                   |      |      |      |      |      |
| In-Kind Match (County)                    |      |      |      |      |      |
| NET FISCAL IMPACT                         | -0-  |      |      |      |      |
|   |      |      |      |      |      |
| No. ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative) |      |      |      |      |      |

|          | POSITIONS (Cumulative)  |
|----------|---|
|          | em Included in Current Budget? Yes No_X<br>s this item include the use of federal funds? Yes No_X |
|          | get Account No.:<br>I DeptUnitObjectProgram Code Program Period                                   |
| B.       | Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:  |
| C.       | No fiscal impact associated with this item.  Departmental Fiscal Review:                          |
| <b>.</b> | Julie Dowe, Director, Financial & Support Svcs  |
|          |   |
|          | III. REVIEW COMMENTS  |
|          | A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Development and Control Comments:                                  |
| (        | OFMBP 1/2 Contract Development and Control  1/3/2000  Contract Development and Control  2/3/2000  |
|          | B. Legal Sufficiency:   |
|          | Assistant County Attorney   |
|          | C. Other Department Review:   |
|          | Department Director   |

This summary is not to be used as a basis for payment.

# LETTER OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND PALM BEACH COUNTY

THIS LETTER OF AGREEMENT (Agreement) is entered into by and between the State of Florida, Department of Health (Department), located at 2585 Merchants Row Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida, and Palm Beach County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, by and through its Board of County Commissioners (BCC), located at 301 North Olive Avenue, West Palm Beach, Florida, 33401, jointly referred to as the "parties."

- A. <u>Scope of Agreement</u>: The purpose of this Agreement is to establish the parties' duties related to the BCC authorization and operation of a sterile needle and syringe exchange program (Exchange Program) in accordance with section 381.0038(4), Florida Statutes. This program will allow the free exchange of clean, unused needles and hypodermic syringes for used needles to prevent the transmission of HIV, AIDS, viral hepatitis, or other blood-borne diseases.
- B. <u>Term</u>: This Agreement begins upon the date of last signature and continues until either party terminates or until the statute and/or ordinance authorizing the exchange program expires or is revoked, whichever occurs first.
- C. <u>Legal Authority</u>: Section 381.0038(4), Florida Statutes.
- D. Parties' Responsibilities
  - 1. The BCC must perform the following:
    - a. Authorize the Exchange Program through enactment of a county ordinance. Provide a copy of the ordinance to the Department upon request.
    - b. Execute a contract with one of the following entities to serve as the (Exchange Program Operator) to operate the Exchange Program. A copy of the contract must be provided to the Department within 45 days from the contract execution date.
      - (1) A hospital licensed under Chapter 395, Florida Statutes;
      - (2) A health care clinic licensed under Part X of Chapter 400, Florida Statutes;
      - (3) A medical school in the state of Florida accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education or the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation;
      - (4) A licensed addiction receiving facility as defined in section

Page 1 of 6

#### 397.311(26)(a)1, Florida Statutes; or

- (5) A section 501(c)(3) HIV/AIDS service organization.
- c. Enlist the local county health department (CHD) to provide ongoing advice, consultation, and recommendations to BCC on public health issues related to operation of the Exchange Program.
- d. Have the Exchange Program Operator implement the Exchange Program in accordance with the county ordinance, which is incorporated by reference, and section 381.0038(4)(b), Florida Statutes, as follows:
  - (1) Develop an oversight and accountability system to ensure the Exchange Program complies with the state of Florida's statutory requirements and the terms of this Agreement. The oversight and accountability system must be approved by the BCC before commencing operations of the Exchange Program. Ensure the oversight and accountability system includes, at a minimum, the following:
    - (a) Measurable objectives for meeting the goals of the Exchange Program and track the progress in achieving those objectives.
    - (b) A requirement that the Exchange Program Operator routinely report to the BCC on the progress of the Exchange Program in achieving its objectives and goals.
    - (c) Mechanisms to track the Exchange Program Operator's compliance or noncompliance with their contractual obligations and to apply consequences for noncompliance.
    - (d) The ability to monitor the Exchange Program's adherence to sections 381.0031 and 381.0038, Florida Statutes, and Rule 64D-3.029, Florida Administrative Code.
  - (2) Provide for maximum security of sites where needles and syringes are exchanged and of any equipment used under the Exchange Program, including, at a minimum, an accounting of the number of needles and syringes in use, needles and syringes in storage, safe disposal of returned needles, and any other measures that may be required to control the use and dispersal of sterile needles and syringes.
  - (3) Operate a one-to-one exchange allowing an Exchange Program participant to receive one sterile needle and syringe unit in exchange for each used one.
  - (4) Make available educational materials regarding the transmission of

- HIV, viral hepatitis, and other blood-borne diseases. Ensure the Exchange Program Operator offers materials to Exchange Program participants whenever needles or syringes are exchanged.
- (5) Provide onsite counseling or written referrals for drug abuse prevention, education, and treatment, and provide onsite HIV and viral hepatitis screening or give written referrals to Exchange Program participants for screenings. All referrals must include the type of service being referred, the name of the entity performing the referred service, and their business hours, address, and contact information. Keep copies of the referrals throughout the Agreement term. Adhere to the following screening and referral requirements:
  - (a) If the Exchange Program offers viral hepatitis or other blood-borne disease screening services, the Exchange Program must develop mechanisms for compliance with the reporting requirement of section 381.0031, Florida Statutes, and rule 64D-3.029, Florida Administrative Code, in conjunction with the prohibition of collection of personal identifying information associated with viral hepatitis and other blood-borne disease testing in section 381.0038(4)(b)7., Florida Statutes.
  - (b) If screening services are offered solely by referral, they must be made available to Exchange Program participants within 72 hours, unless an extended time frame is approved by the county commission of a rural county in accordance with section 381.0038(4)(b)5., Florida Statutes.
  - (c) In the event of reactive results, the Exchange Program must refer Exchange Program participants to the local CHD or other organizations able to provide follow-up testing and free or discounted on-site care if those services are not available through the Exchange Program.
  - (d) If the Exchange Program offers HIV screening on-site, the Exchange Program must register with the Department as an anonymous HIV testing site and provide referrals for medical care and follow-up for persons testing positive.
- (6) Provide kits containing an emergency opioid antagonist, as defined in section 381.887, Florida Statutes, or provide referrals to a program that can provide such kits. All referrals must include the name of the entity performing the referred service, their business hours, address, and contact information, with copies of referrals maintained by the Exchange Operator throughout the Agreement term.

- (7) Collect the following Exchange Program data for annual reporting in accordance with section 381.0038(4)(b)7., Florida Statutes. Any personal identifying information may not be collected from Exchange Program participants for any purpose:
  - (a) Number of individual participants served
  - (b) Number of used needles and syringes received, and the number of clean, unused needles and syringes distributed to exchange program participants
  - (c) Demographic profiles of the participants served
  - (d) Number of participants entering drug counseling or treatment
  - (e) Number of participants receiving testing for HIV
  - (f) Number of participants receiving testing for other blood-borne diseases
  - (g) Number of participants receiving referrals for HIV testing
  - (h) Number of participants receiving referrals for viral hepatitis testing
  - (i) Number of participants receiving referrals for other blood-borne diseases testing
  - (j) Any other data that may be required under Department rule
- (8) Prepare an annual Exchange Program Data Report (using the information collected in Task 1.d.(7), above) and submit it to the Department and the BCC by August 1 annually.
- 2. The Department, through its CHDs, will perform the following:
  - a. Provide ongoing advice, consultation, and recommendations on public health issues related to operation of the Exchange Program as requested by BCC.
  - b. Refer BCC to third-party organizations for technical assistance related to operation of the Exchange Program as needed.

### E. Special Provisions

1. <u>Inspector General Audit Cooperation</u>: BCC understands its duty, pursuant to section 20.055(5), Florida Statutes, to cooperate with the Inspector General in any investigation, audit, inspection, review, or hearing.

- 2. <u>Notice</u>: Any notices given by either party to the other party under this Agreement must be in writing and sent either: by overnight courier, with a verified receipt; or by registered or certified U.S. Mail, postage prepaid. Either parties' listed point of contact may be changed by notifying the other party a minimum of one week prior to such change.
  - a. Department: Mara Michniewicz, MPH

Prevention Program Manager

**HIV/AIDS Section** 

Bureau of Communicable Diseases

Division of Disease Control and Health Protection

Florida Department of Health 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A-09 Tallahassee, Florida 32399

b. BCC:

Dr. Casey Messer

c/o Palm Beach County Community Services Department

810 Datura Street

West Palm Beach, 33401

with copy to:

Palm Beach County Attorney 301 North Olive Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor West Palm Beach, FL 33401

- 3. <u>Costs</u>: Both parties will perform their respective obligations set forth in this Agreement at no cost to each other.
- 4. <u>Exchange Program Funding</u>: Pursuant to section 381.0038(4)(f), Florida Statutes, state, county, or municipal funds cannot be used to operate the Exchange Program.
- 5. <u>Termination</u>: This Agreement may be terminated by either party upon 45 calendar days' written notice, without cause, unless a lesser time is mutually agreed upon by the parties. Termination may not occur where prohibited by state or federal law.
- 6. <u>Modification</u>: This Agreement may only be amended or otherwise modified in writing upon agreement of the parties.
- 7. <u>Waiver</u>: The failure of either party, in any respect, to exercise, or delay in exercising any right, power, or privilege provided for hereunder will not be deemed a waiver thereof; nor will any single or partial exercise of any such right, power or privilege preclude any other, or further exercise thereof, or the exercise of any other right, power, or privilege under this agreement. No party will be deemed to

have waived a right, power, or privilege provided for hereunder, unless such waiver is made in writing, and signed by the party against whom such waiver is sought.

- 8. <u>Confidentiality</u>: Where applicable, both parties will maintain confidentiality of all protected health information, including client records, related to the services provided pursuant to this agreement, in compliance with all applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations including, but not limited to, sections 119.0712, 381.003, 381.0031, 381.004, 384.29, 392.65 and 456.057, Florida Statutes, and the rules adopted thereunder. The parties agree to comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and any current and future regulations promulgated thereunder, including 45 C.F.R. Parts 160, 162, and 164.
- 9. Public Records:

If the BCC has questions regarding the application of Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, to their duty to provide public records relating to this contract, contact the custodian of public records at (850) 245 - 4005, PublicRecordsRequest@flhealth.gov or 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A02, Tallahassee, FL 32399.

10. <u>Entire Agreement</u>: This Agreement embodies the entire agreement and understanding between the parties, on the subject hereof.

**IN WITNESS THEREOF**, the parties agree to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and have duly authorized their respective representatives to sign it on the dates specified below.

| STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH           | PALM BEACH COUNTY                         |
|---|---|
| SIGNED<br>BY:                                   | SIGNED<br>BY:                             |
| NAME: Shamarial Roberson, DrPH, MPH             | NAME: Dave Kerner                         |
| TITLE: Deputy Secretary for Health              | TITLE: Mayor                              |
| DATE: 2/4/20                                    | DATE:                                     |
| Attest: Sharon R. Bock<br>Clerk and Comptroller | Approved As To Form and Legal Sufficiency |
| By:<br>Deputy Clerk                             | By:<br>Senior Assistant County Attorney   |
| , ·   | Page 6 of 7  BY:  DEPARTMENT HEAD         |