



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: July 20, 2021

DATE: June 28, 2021

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Amber Howell, Director, Human Services Agency
775-785-8600 ahowell@washoecounty.us

THROUGH: Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager

SUBJECT: Recommendation to accept a Notice of Subgrant Award in the amount of [\$1,709,550 (\$854,775 per fiscal year); no county match] from Nevada Clinical Services, Inc. and managed by the State of Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health retroactive from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023 to provide crisis and jail diversion services through a Mobile Outreach Safety Team (MOST Team) to individuals with a mental health condition who have come into contact with law enforcement; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the subgrant award and related documents; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. (All Commission Districts)

SUMMARY

Recommendation to accept a Notice of Subgrant Award in the amount of [\$1,709,550 (\$854,775 per fiscal year); no county match] from Nevada Clinical Services, Inc. and managed by the State of Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health retroactive from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023 to provide crisis and jail diversion services through a Mobile Outreach Safety Team (MOST Team) to individuals with a mental health condition who have come into contact with law enforcement; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the subgrant award and related documents; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

County Priority/Goal supported by this item: Safe, Secure, and Healthy Communities.

PREVIOUS ACTION

On December 10, 2019, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #14, the Agency's request to accept two awards from the State of Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health to support the Mobile Safety Team in providing crisis and jail diversion services in the amounts of \$1,709,550 and \$246,002 (a grant total of \$1,100,777 for FY20 and \$854,775 for FY21), retroactive from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

On October 10, 2017, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #14, the Agency's request to accept a supplemental grant award in the amount of \$873,662 with no county match, retroactive from March 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019 and authorized the creation of an additional 2.0 FTE Mental Health Counselor II positions and 1.0 FTE Case Manager position for the MOST Team.

On April 11, 2017, the Board of County of Commissioners approved item #8, the Agency's request to accept a State of Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health subgrant in the amount of \$518,349 with no county match retroactive from March 1, 2017 through February 28, 2019 and authorized the creation of 2.0 FTE Mental Health Counselor II positions to provide crisis jail diversion services through a Mobile Outreach Safety Team (MOST) to individuals with a mental health condition who have come into contact with law enforcement.

BACKGROUND

The Mobile Outreach Safety Team (MOST Team) sub-grant was developed in response to a recommendation from the Governor's Behavioral Health and Wellness Council, established by former Governor Brian Sandoval in 2013. This recommendation called for the creation of locally operated intervention teams with the objective of working with law enforcement professionals in response to individuals with mental health conditions who are in crisis. This transition to local operation aims to increase coordination with the local law enforcement agencies and increase local support of the MOST Team.

Effective March 2017, this subgrant initiated the transfer of the MOST Team operations for Washoe County to the Human Services Agency (HSA); prior to this period, the MOST Team was operated in entirety by the State of Nevada.

During his first State of the State Address on January 16, 2019, Governor Steve Sisolak called for an expansion of MOST Team operating hours, increasing access to 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This initiative was also included in the 2020-2021 Governor Recommended Budget. As a result, the Agency added two Mental Health Counselor II positions to accomplish this goal. The Agency's management staff continues to provide clinical supervision for the mental health professionals and coordinate policy and program priorities with local law enforcement agencies.

For this award, the State of Nevada will provide two years of funding in the amount of \$854,775 per year (\$1,709,550 in total), with no County match required, to Washoe County to support a MOST Team to implement the following:

- Provide intervention services in order to divert individuals from unnecessary admissions into the criminal justice system, emergency rooms, and inpatient psychiatric facilities, per policies and procedures
- Provide care coordination and outreach services to individuals experiencing behavioral health crises as identified through law enforcement/dispatch/referrals

- Provide community outreach activities to inform potential partner referral agencies, behavioral health providers and social service providers about MOST and encourage collaboration between MOST and the partners
- Provide MOST mental health counselors with training on evidence-based practices or best practices related to crisis intervention so counselors may most effectively provide services for the target population

Retroactive approval is requested as the notice of subaward (NOSA) was received June 10, 2021.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: Mobile Outreach Safety Team (MOST Team)

Scope of the Project: Crisis and jail diversion services will be provided through a MOST Team to individuals with a mental health condition who have come into contact with law enforcement.

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: Local implementation of the MOST Team has and will continue to provide more coordinated and efficient crisis and jail diversion services for Washoe County residents in crisis.

On-Going Program Support: The MOST Team was operated by the State Division of Public and Behavioral Health until March 2017 when the first Sub-Grant to shift implementation of the program to the local government level was issued to Washoe County. This award represents the second renewal at the local level. If the grant award is discontinued or not renewed, the program would be shifted back to the State.

Award Amount: \$ 1,709,550 (**\$1,709,550 Direct/ \$0 Indirect**)

Grant Period: July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023

Funding Source: Nevada Clinical Services, Inc.
Managed by the State of Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health

Pass through Entity: N/A

CFDA Number: N/A

Grant ID Number: 206454

Match Amount and Type: There is no required match.

Sub-Awards and Contracts: There are no anticipated sub-awards or contracts associated with this grant award.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this subgrant award, there is no additional fiscal impact as this award was anticipated and included in the Human Services Agency FY22 adopted budget in the Indigent Fund (221) in IO-11619.

Funding provided by Nevada Clinical Services did not include indirect costs.

If the grant award is discontinued or not renewed, the program would be shifted back to the State. As this award funds personnel, if grant funding is reduced or eliminated, the position hours will be reduced and/or the positions abolished accordingly, unless additional funding is secured.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation to accept a Notice of Subgrant Award in the amount of [\$1,709,550 (\$854,775 per fiscal year); no county match] from Nevada Clinical Services, Inc. and managed by the State of Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) retroactive from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023 to provide crisis and jail diversion services through a Mobile Outreach Safety Team (MOST Team) to individuals with a mental health condition who have come into contact with law enforcement; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the subgrant award and related documents; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to accept a Notice of Subgrant Award in the amount of [\$1,709,550 (\$854,775 per fiscal year); no county match] from Nevada Clinical Services, Inc. and managed by the State of Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) retroactive from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023 to provide crisis and jail diversion services through a Mobile Outreach Safety Team (MOST Team) to individuals with a mental health condition who have come into contact with law enforcement; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the subgrant award and related documents; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments."