



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: May 17, 2022

DATE: Thursday, May 5, 2022

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Corey A. Solferino, Captain, Washoe County Sheriff's Office
(775) 328-3050, csolferino@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Sheriff Darin Balaam

SUBJECT: Recommendation to 1) accept transfer of MOST services from the Washoe County Human Services Agency to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office – Operations Division retroactive to March 1, 2022. This includes all previously issued grant purchased equipment, monies, positions, and infrastructure into the new grant award recipient WCSO. On July 20, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners accepted a Subgrant Award for funds in the amount of [1,709,550 (\$854,775 per fiscal year); no county match required] 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. The State of Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral approved the updated scope of work (retroactive to 03/01/2022) and transfer to WCSO from HSA to ensure all program requirements are met. The purpose of this grant is to provide crisis and jail diversion services through a Mobile Outreach Safety Team (MOST). The target population for this team is to assist individuals with mental health conditions who have met Law Enforcement and provide them critical stabilization services and ensure they are routed through the appropriate enforcement medium 2) Further recommend authorizing the Sheriff of Washoe County and Director of Washoe County Human Services Agency to execute the First Amendment to and Assignment of Grant Agreement with Nevada Clinical Services, Inc. and related documents 3) authorize the abolishment of one vacant full-time Mental Health Counselor II position (PC#70010603), the transfer of six positions from Washoe County Human Services Agency to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office and direct Human Resources to make the necessary position changes and 4) direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

(All Commission Districts)

SUMMARY

AGENDA ITEM # _____

Recommendation to accept transfer of MOST services from the Washoe County Human Services Agency (hereinafter HSA) into the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (hereinafter WCSO)- Operations Division. The Board of County Commissioners approved on July 20, 2021, a subgrant award in the amount of [\$1,709,550 (\$854,775 per fiscal year); no county match required] 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). In peer reviewed research it has proven to be a more effective model to have MOST deployed in the field in concert with Law Enforcement to deal with persons experiencing crisis.

MOST paired in the field with Law Enforcement complements one another to provide a myriad of response modals that end in successful resolution. Having MOST and WCSO paired under the same operational structure allows for better case management and continuity of care. HSA has done an amazing job in building the program from the ground up. It will be incumbent on law enforcement to continue that framework into new response strategies and mitigation efforts for our vulnerable populations and connect them with the services they need to thrive. Our goal is to continue to build and grow this program into a national model as we have been extremely successful in the few short months, we have been operating together in connecting people to services and significantly impacting reductions in our repeat calls for service locations. These reductions in calls for service locations are freeing up Deputy Sheriff's to concentrate their efforts on priority crimes and allowing MOST and Case Management the ability to identify problems early and come to a resolution before additional victimology or tragedy occurs.

PREVIOUS ACTION

On July 20, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #17, Washoe County Human Services Agency's request to accept a Subgrant Award for funds in the amount of [1,709,550 (\$854,775 per fiscal year); no county match required] 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.

On December 10, 2019, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #14, Washoe County Human Services 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.

On October 10, 2017, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #14, Washoe County Human Services 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, Washoe County Human Services 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, HSA added two Mental Health Counselor II positions to accomplish this goal. HSA'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 the award that was accepted by the Board on July 20, 2021, the State of Nevada provided 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 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

Transfer of Existing Positions

Transfer the following six positions and associated cost distributions from the Washoe County Human Services Agency Area/Subarea to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office Area/Subarea effective March 1, 2022:

<u>Position Number</u>	<u>Job Classification</u>
70010028	Human Services Case Worker III (vacant)
70009850	Mental Health Counselor II (vacant)
70009851	Mental Health Counselor II
70010030	Mental Health Counselor II (vacant)
70010031	Mental Health Counselor II
70010029	Mental Health Counselor Supervisor (vacant)

Position to be Delimited effective March 1, 2022

<u>Position Number</u>	<u>Job Classification</u>
70010603	Mental Health Counselor II (vacant-unfunded position)

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 met 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

The budget amendment addresses the remaining grant award availability beginning March 1, 2022, through the end of the performance period June 30, 2023.

Should the board accept the transfer of MOST services from Washoe County Human Services Agency to Washoe County Sheriff's Office – Operations Division, and approve these amendments, the FY22 Sheriff's Office adopted budget will be increased by \$1,184,703.17 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

Cost Object & Description	G/L Account & Description	Amount
IO-11999	484195-Non-Governmental Grants	\$1,184,703.17
IO-11999	701412-Salary Adjustment	\$ 734,946.81
IO-11999	705360-Benefit Adjustment	\$ 395,740.59
IO-11999	711210-Travel	\$ 8,237.31
IO-11999	710300-Operating Supplies	\$ 38,175.40
IO-11999	710509-Seminars & Meetings	\$ 7,603.06

The remaining budget authority of \$329,928.17 within the Human Services Agency Indigent Fund (221) will be unavailable for use in FY22. In addition, the budget authority for this award has been removed from the Indigent Fund FY23 recommended budget.

Any actual expenditures incurred while these funds were managed by HSA will need to be addressed by staff.

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.

It is the goal of the WCSO to ensure above base budget requests are considered at the end of the grant cycle. It is important to fund these positions within the county budget to assist in the recruitment and retention of valuable, highly trained personnel that are leaving for higher paying and budgetarily protected jobs. The WCSO MOST partnership will only be successful insofar as these positions ultimately funded internally and protected.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation to 1) accept transfer of MOST services from the Washoe County Human Services Agency to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office – Operations Division retroactive to March 1, 2022. This includes all previously issued grant purchased equipment, monies, positions, and infrastructure into the new grant award recipient WCSO. On July 20, 2021,

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POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to 1) accept transfer of MOST services from the Washoe County Human Services Agency to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office – Operations Division retroactive to March 1, 2022. This includes all previously issued grant purchased equipment, monies, positions, and infrastructure into the new grant award recipient WCSO. On July 20, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners accepted a Subgrant Award for funds in the amount of [1,709,550 (\$854,775 per fiscal year); no county match required] 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. The State of Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral approved the updated scope of work (retroactive to 03/01/2022) and transfer to WCSO from HSA to ensure all program requirements are met. The purpose of this grant is to provide crisis and jail diversion services through a Mobile Outreach Safety Team (MOST). The target population for this team is to assist individuals with mental health conditions who have met Law Enforcement and provide them critical stabilization services and ensure they are routed through the appropriate enforcement medium 2) Further recommend authorizing the Sheriff of Washoe County and Director of Washoe County Human Services Agency to execute the First Amendment to and Assignment of Grant Agreement with Nevada Clinical Services, Inc. and related documents 3) authorize the abolishment of one vacant full-time Mental Health Counselor II position (PC#70010603), the transfer of six positions from Washoe County Human Services Agency to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office and direct Human Resources to make the necessary position changes and 4) direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.