

NON-COMPETITIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Project/Purchase Name: Behavioral Health High Utilizer Pilot Program

Budget Estimate: \$650K Annual

Requisitioning Department: Human Services

Human Services is requesting a non-compete continuation for an additional 2 years on the agreement with Suncoast Center for the Pinellas County Empowerment Team (PCET).

The original PCET agreement was established for an initial 12 months with two 1 year renewals. The program is in its third year with an agreement end date of May 9, 2019. The current program has been a highly successful community collaboration and the department is seeking to extend the program for 2 additional years for a total of 5 years through May 9, 2021. Funding for the program is reoccurring and contained within the Human Services budget. The department has provided regular updates to the Board and the community.

The original Empower Team project was released as an RFP to the community with 1 non-responsive proposal received. Following the non-responsive bid, Purchasing issued a Letter of Interest in December 2015 (*Letter of Interest Request is attached*) to solicit partners. Five letters of interest were received and Suncoast Center became the primary agreement partner with a close working alignment with Boley Centers.

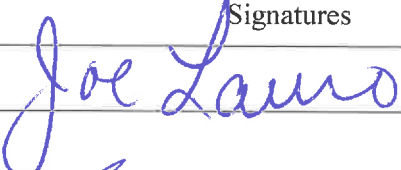

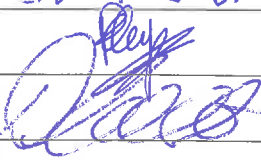
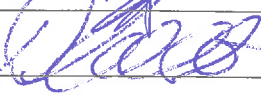
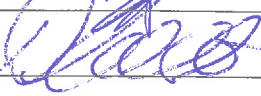
The goal of the project continues to be the stabilization and treatment of the top utilizing behavioral health clients (“top 33”) that were identified in Pinellas County while informing system efficiencies, change, and cross-system opportunities for cost savings. As mentioned, this program has been highly successful and has been selected as a national Best Practice by the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) at the federal level and presented as a learning tool in Alexandria, VA (*presentation attached*). The program continues to treat the same high use clients that were initiated with ongoing success(*project dashboard and USF year one study is attached, year 2 study is underway*). Over the course of the 2 year extension, the program will focus on models to step down treatment and connection to services while maintaining stability for clients. The program will also continue to focus on community efficiencies in order to affect lasting change across behavioral health partners (as an example: the program has been instrumental in establishing a multiparty release and has established lessons learned that have informed policy and implementation of behavioral health services within the county)

Moving forward, it is essential that this project continue on a non-compete basis with the current provider due to:

- A shift in treatment providers would be severely detrimental to the current clients that are in treatment with a high chance of creating instability, service disconnects, and loss of progress with many of the clients. The current treatment team relationship with each client is critical to ongoing client success. Surprisingly, a

majority of the clients have even agreed to long acting injectable medications which is a testament to the treatment relationships the provider has with the clients.

- The staffing team was defined under the program model and hired by the current provider as staff of Suncoast Centers. Changing providers would create significant staffing challenges with major service level gaps for clients that currently require ongoing treatment under an intensive service model. (there is no way to switch the service team overnight, requiring significant overlap of 2 separate teams to manage a shift while a new team is recruited/hired and also significantly increasing cost to the County)
- The program continues to host collaborative discussions under partnerships that are established by the current provider under the current PCET model. This working group would need to re-establish under leadership by a new provider and much of the work from years 1-3 would be hindered.
- The current provider knows the clients and the treatment needs of the program. They are prepared to work with the clients on a step down process that meets the specific needs of the client over time with ongoing follow-up.
- As a current best practice, we are seeking to build on the success and inform future policy and services. USF continues to study the controlled program to inform policy makers about what practices are most effective for treatment and cost on high need clients. Changing the primary provider would cause significant impacts to the controlled study.

Non-Competitive Oversight Committee	Signatures
1) Joe Lauro	
2) Bill Berger	
3) Paul Sacco	
4) Rahim Harji	
5) Office of County Attorney	
DATE: <u>3/22/19</u>	

Comments

Joe Lauro positive impacts/benefits to remain behavioural providers created group/model/risk to* clients

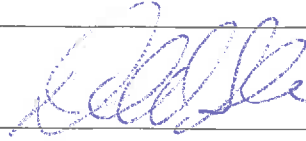
Bill Berger _____

Paul Sacco _____

Rahim Harji _____

Office of County Attorney

Don Cromell



Short term finalization w/ serious potential impacts to those served if changing providers. Easy to support sole source.