



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 15-912, **Version:** 1

Subject:

Service Funding Agreement with WestCare Gulfcoast-Florida, Inc. for the Elevate Program: Raising Problem Solving to Another Level.

Recommended Action:

Approval and execution by the County Administrator of the Service Funding Agreement with WestCare Gulfcoast-Florida, Inc. (WestCare) for the Elevate Program: Raising Problem Solving to Another Level (Elevate Program).

Project Period: 9/30/2015 - 9/29/2016. Agreement term: 9/30/2015 - 9/29/2016. Not-to-exceed amount of \$250,000.00 per year.

Strategic Plan:

Ensure Public Health, Safety and Welfare

2.2 Be a facilitator, convener, and purchaser of services for those in need

Summary:

The County has received a joint grant award through the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), to execute the Elevate Program, which will be an enhancement to the Adult Drug Court.

The purpose of this agreement is to facilitate the administration of federal grant funds and the Elevate Program, which aims to reduce crime and substance abuse among high risk/high need, nonviolent youthful offenders ages 18-30 who have been diagnosed with a substance abuse disorder, have experienced trauma, and may also be struggling with a mild co-occurring mental health disorder. Between 2015 and 2018, at least 185 youthful offenders are expected to enroll in the Elevate Program through joint funding from BJA and SAMHSA.

The treatment services to be provided by Curaparr Corporation d/b/a Center for Rational Living (CRL) will be in accordance with the Elevate Grant application and award(s) from SAMHSA. The County has partnered with the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court and a network of community-based service providers: WestCare and CRL.

Background/Explanation:

The Elevate Program is the result of a joint adult drug court solicitation with BJA and SAMHSA to enhance services, coordination and treatment. Drug courts are part of the larger universe of problem-solving courts, and have been demonstrated to reduce recidivism and substance-abuse among high-risk offenders and to increase their likelihood of successful rehabilitation.

Fiscal Impact:

The amount of this Agreement is a not-to-exceed amount of \$250,000.00 per year. All costs incurred

under this Agreement are fully reimbursable to the County from the Elevate Grant funds.

Delegated Authority:

Authority for the County Administrator to sign this agreement is granted under Code Section 2-62(a) (1).

Staff Member Responsible:

Lourdes Benedict, Director, Human Services

Partners:

Sixth Judicial Circuit
Curaparr Corporation d/b/a Center for Rational Living
WestCare Gulfcoast-Florida, Inc.

Attachments:

BJA Award
SAMHSA Award
Three (3) year Budget