



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 18-1915A, **Version:** 1

Subject:

Funding Agreement with Directions for Mental Health, Inc. for the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Grant program.

Recommended Action:

Approval of the Funding Agreement with Directions for Mental Health, Inc. (Directions for Living) for the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Grant Program (AOT Grant).

- The AOT Grant provides funding to increase capacity of mental health services for individuals with serious mental illness that have been court-ordered to receive outpatient treatment services. Under the Grant Funding Agreement, Directions for Living will lead care coordination, psychiatric services, and case management for AOT grant clients.
- The program will serve approximately 100 clients annually.
- Contract amount not to exceed \$2,663,235.00 for four years from the AOT Grant.

Strategic Plan:

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

5.1 Maximize partner relationships and public outreach

5.2 Be responsible stewards of the public's resources

Ensure Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

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

2.4 Support programs that seek to prevent and remedy the cause of homelessness and move individuals and families from homelessness to permanent housing

Summary:

The Funding Agreement for the AOT Grant provides funding to increase capacity of mental health services for individuals with serious mental illness. AOT Grant clients are court-ordered to receive outpatient treatment services. Under the Funding Agreement, Directions for Living will lead care coordination, psychiatric services, and case management for AOT grant clients. The program will serve approximately 100 clients annually.

Background Information:

Pinellas County does not currently utilize court-ordered Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT). The current system of care only offers Involuntary Residential Treatment and voluntary referral to treatment. Currently, there is no less restrictive level of care for clients who do not qualify for Involuntary Residential Treatment, but need more assistance engaging in follow-up care.

The need for AOT is demonstrated by the high recidivism rate among Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU)

users and the lack of follow-up by clients discharged to voluntary treatment. Of CSU admissions, approximately 30 monthly episodes (duplicated) involve recidivists from the past 30 days and an average of 57 (unduplicated) clients per month have three or more admits in the past six months.

Studies consistently find that court-ordered AOT increases short-term treatment adherence, promotes long-term voluntary compliance, and reduces the incidents and/or duration of hospitalization, homelessness, arrests and incarcerations, victimization, violent episodes and other consequences of non-treatment.

Fiscal Impact:

Funding in an amount not to exceed \$2,663,235.00 for four (4) years will be provided by Grant 1H79SM063549-01 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. This funding was not included in the FY19 Adopted Budget. It is anticipated that a Budget Resolution may be submitted in FY19 as a result of this award.

Staff Member Responsible:

Daisy Rodriguez, Director, Human Services

Partners:

Directions for Living
Personal Enrichment for Mental Health, Inc.
Sixth Judicial Circuit
Office of the Public Defender
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Attachments:

Agreement
Attachment 1 - Data Sharing Agreement
Attachment 2 - Agreement Modification
Attachment 3 - Insurance Requirements
Appendix A - Grant Application
Appendix B - Grant Budget
Appendix C - Notice of Award
Appendix D - Grant Funding Conditions
Appendix E - Certifications