



# Pinellas County

## Staff Report

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**File #:** 19-1246A, **Version:** 1

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### **Subject:**

Grant award from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the next 12 months of Expanding Access to Quality Substance Use Disorder and Mental Health Services Grant for the Health Care for the Homeless program.

### **Recommended Action:**

Approval of the grant award from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the Fiscal Year 2020 Expanding Access to Quality Substance Use Disorder and Mental Health Services (SUD-MH) Grant for the Health Care for the Homeless (HCH) program.

- The funding will support continued substance use engagement and services for HCH clients.
- The grant provides \$140,750.00 per year.
- There is no match or cost sharing requirements.

### **Strategic Plan:**

Ensure Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

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

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

### **Summary:**

This funding will continue support for the Health Care for the Homeless (HCH) pilot program providing substance use providers and integrated mental health services. The program establishes a behavioral health team for high need HCH clients and help connect homeless individuals to substance abuse and primary care services as an engagement from St. Anthony's hospital. This award continues annual funding of \$140,750.00 in support of the SUD treatment and engagement for HCH clients.

The HCH Co-Applicant Board approved and reviewed the grant application on July 10, 2018 and approved the first year of the grant award on October 9, 2018. The Board of County Commissioners (Board) approved the application on July 11, 2018 and the first year of the grant award on October 23, 2018.

### **Background Information:**

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Expanding Access to Quality Substance Use Disorder and Mental Health Services (SUD-MH) funding opportunity was a non-competitive, supplemental funding opportunity open to Health Center Program award recipients. Funding supports health centers in implementing and advancing evidence-based strategies to address emerging public health issues, such as opioid

use disorder, through the expansion of integrated substance use disorder (SUD) and/or mental health (MH) services.

In January 2019, HRSA awarded Pinellas County a three-year federal grant to continue support of comprehensive primary health care services to homeless individuals in Pinellas County. The purpose of the health center program is to improve the health of the Nation's underserved communities and vulnerable populations by assuring continued access to comprehensive, culturally competent, quality primary health care services.

Based on 2018 Universal Data System (UDS) and prior to this grant funding, the HCH program served 2,839 homeless individuals in 2018 with preventive primary medical care services and 146 individuals with medication assisted treatment (MAT) SUD services. During the first half of 2019, the HCH program saw a 26% increase in clients receiving MAT SUD services. This grant funding will provide additional access to homeless individuals presenting in St. Anthony's emergency department (ED) with substance use concerns. Homeless individuals presenting in the ED will be assessed for enrollment in the HCH program, those who are not enrolled will be assisted with the enrollment process. HCH clients presenting in the ED with substance use concerns will be connected to the PAR team and will be provided access to a SU/MH counselor, case management, psychiatric services (as needed), and detox services (as needed).

**Fiscal Impact:**

The grant award totals \$140,750.00. There is no match required. This revenue is included in the FY20 Proposed Budget.

**Staff Member Responsible:**

Daisy Rodriguez, Director, Human Services

**Partners:**

Health Care for the Homeless Co-Applicant Board  
Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County  
Operation PAR

**Attachments:**

Notice of Award H80CS00024-18-01  
Final Submitted Application