



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 23-1489A, Version: 1

Subject:

Agreement with Directions for Mental Health, Inc., and First Option of Renewal with Operation Par, Inc., for the Cooperative Agreement to Benefit Homeless Individuals.

Recommended Action:

Approval of an agreement with Directions for Mental Health, Inc. d/b/a Directions for Living, Renewal and Amendment (Renewal) with Operation Par, Inc., (Operation Par), for the Cooperative Agreement to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI).

- This Renewal and Agreement will continue funding of CABHI. The CABHI program provides supplemental field-based co-occurring behavioral health treatment to housed residents that have experienced being unhoused and have a behavioral health diagnosis. CABHI staff bring services to the client to reduce barriers in maintaining stabilizing behavioral health care.
- The Agreement with Directions documents negotiated staffing changes, a 5% cost of living increase, and updates standard boiler plate contract terms. Renewal with Operations PAR updates termination contract terms.
- Annual funding in an amount not to exceed \$735,310.00 has been identified in the fiscal year 2024 (FY24) Human Services Adopted Budget for CABHI. This item allocates \$514,634.80 total to Directions and Operation PAR.
- WestCare of Gulfcoast Florida Inc. (WestCare), is also a CABHI program partner, their agreement will follow in a separate Legistar item in an amount not to exceed \$220,657.50.
- This is a two-year renewal, effective October 1, 2023. The current agreement has been in effect since October 1, 2020, and expired on September 30, 2023.
- Original agreements were approved on September 22, 2020, file #20-1223A. Amendments with Operation PAR and WestCare were approved on February 20, 2023, file #22-1342D to implement a 5.0% cost of living adjustment increase.

Strategic Plan:

Ensure Public Health, Safety and Welfare

2.1 Provide planning, coordination, prevention, and protective services to ensure a safe and secure community

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 causes of homelessness and move individuals and families from homelessness to permanent housing

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 Renewal and Agreement provide continuation funding for CABHI. Under CABHI, Directions, PAR, and Westcare will continue providing collaborative co-occurring behavioral health treatment services to recently housed individuals and families at risk of homelessness. CABHI provides counseling, case management, and substance use peer support to clients to encourage overall health.

Since inception, the CABHI program has enrolled 390 individuals with a serious mental illness and/or cooccurring substance use disorder. CABHI partner collaboration has been key in CABHI's success, the team holds weekly meetings to staff new clients and problem-solve encountered barriers.

Background Information:

In August of 2016, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) awarded the County a three-year grant to implement the CABHI program. In FY20, the Board approved a recurring decision package to maintain the program and continue providing supportive services to help with stability for newly housed individuals.

CABHI provides mental health and substance use treatment to individuals and families that are at risk of homelessness, have been recently housed, and have a serious mental illness, emotional disturbance, substance use, and/or co-occurring diagnosis. CABHI staff utilize engagement strategies to build relationships with clients and provide collaborative services to help clients maintain housing.

Fiscal Impact:

Annual funding in an amount not to exceed \$735,310.00 has been identified in FY24 Human Services Adopted Budget for CABHI. This item allocates \$514,634.80 total to Directions and Operation PAR.

FY24 contract amounts effective October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024;

Directions	\$292,417.00
Operation PAR	\$222,217.80

FY24 Total \$514,634.80

Staff Member Responsible:

Karen Yatchum, Director, Human Services

Partners:

Directions For Living
Operation PAR, Inc.
Westcare Gulfcoast-Florida, Inc.

Attachments:

Directions Agreement
Operation PAR Renewal