



Agenda Action Form Overview

The Board is requested to authorize the County Manager to enter into a service contract in the amount of \$161,757 with Psychiatric Services and consultation to provide psychiatric services to individuals in the Durham County Detention Facility. The funding for this contract has been included in the Justice Services Department's FY 2025-26 budget pending board approval.

Background/Justification

In 2014, the Justice Services Department formerly Criminal Justice Resource Center assumed the contract for psychiatric services in the detention center through a Memorandum of Agreement with Alliance Behavioral Health Care. At that time, Psychiatric Services LLC, and its sole proprietor Dr. Patricia Knaudt, had been providing the service at the Detention Center for several years under a contractual agreement with The Durham Center.

As the facility's Mental Health Director, per the Jail Medical Plan, the psychiatrist holds the ultimate responsibility for making clinical decisions concerning the care of mental health clients. The vendor operates a weekly clinic for inmates who are experiencing symptoms from their condition and who have difficulty adjusting to the daily life within the jail and is primarily responsible for writing prescriptions for inmates who have a documented mental health diagnosis and history of psychiatric medication use as they enter the jail. In addition, the psychiatrist makes a clinical determination of whether an inmate with no documented medication history should be placed on medication. Medication administration is then monitored, on paper or in person, every 30 days for compliance and effectiveness. The psychiatrist also works with the Jail Mental Health Team on identifying and monitoring individuals placed in the Mental Health Pod.

Durham County Purchasing Division issued a Request for Qualifications for Professional Psychiatric Services (RFQ 18-033) in May 2018. Psychiatric Services and Consultation, PC was the only respondent. The contract maintains 19 hours per week at the detention center.

The County Attorney's Office has reviewed the service contract.

Policy Impact

The agenda item is consistent with historical Board of County Commissioner support for mental health services for justice involved individuals and a continued emphasis on reducing the number of inmates with mental health concerns.

Procurement Background

Type of purchase

- ☐ Goods
- ☒ Services
- ☐ Architect, Engineer or Surveyor Services
- ☐ Construction and Repair



Did this request for purchase go through a bid process? Yes ☒ No ☐

Goods: Bids required if $\geq \$30,000$, BOCC approval if $\geq \$90,000$

Services: Bids required if $\geq \$30,000$, BOCC approval if $> \$40,000$

Construction/Repair work: Bids required if $\geq \$30,000$, BOCC approval if $\geq \$500,000$

If yes, attach a copy of bid tab and the minority and women business enterprise (MWBE) compliance review form provided by the Purchasing Division.

If no, why?

- ☐ Sole source exemption
- ☐ Cooperative purchasing program exemption
- ☐ State and federal contract exemption
- ☐ Contract is an amendment to an existing contract
- ☐ Other (please explain)

If exempted from bidding, has this request been reviewed and approved by the Purchasing Division in the agenda Legistar system? Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, why?

Fiscal Impact

This contract has been included in the Justice Services Department (formerly Criminal Justice Resource Center's) budget for Jail Mental Health Services since 2014. The availability of Psychiatric Services in the Durham County Detention Facility is paramount to meeting the mandate that inmates' psychiatric medications must be reviewed every 30 days. Funding for the contract is included in the Justice Services Department Detention Behavioral Health Services FY 2025-26 budget.

Recommendation

The County Manager recommends that the Board of County Commissioners authorize the County Manager to enter into a Service Contract with Psychiatric Services and Consultation for Fiscal Year 2025-26 in the amount of \$161,757.