



Agenda Action Form Overview

The Board is requested to authorize the County Manager to enter into a service contract in the amount of \$81,900.00 with Psychiatric Services and Consultation to provide psychiatric services to individuals in the Durham County Detention Facility. The funding for this contract has been approved in the Criminal Justice Resource Center's FY20 budget.

Background/Justification

In 2014, the 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.

Dr. Knaudt is actively engaged in efforts to reduce the number of mentally ill persons in our jail and participates in the Stepping Up Initiative. She was instrumental in developing a partnership with Duke Medical Center and bringing two fourth-year residents to the facility this fiscal year who will provide four hours of psychiatric support services per week at no cost to Durham County.

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. Additional funding was appropriated in the FY20 budget to increase the hourly rate to \$135.00 and the weekly number of hours from 12 to 14 which will allow Dr. Knaudt additional time to review protocols and processes in her function as the facility's Mental Health Director. It is anticipated that the additional weekly hours along with the availability of residents will contribute to meeting the expectations outlined in a recently approved Memorandum of Understanding. The County Attorney's Office has reviewed the service contract.

Additionally, CJRC and Dr. Knaudt will work to develop after-hour and weekend coverage of clinical services through the addition of part-time clinical social workers and availability of emergency tele psychiatric services. Funding for after-hour coverage has been approved in CJRC's FY20 budget.



Policy Impact

The agenda item is consistent with historical Board of County Commissioner support for mental health services in the Durham County Detention Facility and an increased 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 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.



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 the remainder of Fiscal Year 2019-20 in the amount of \$81,900.00.