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AGENDA COVER MEMO

AGENDA DATE: September 13, 2005
TO: Board of County Commissioners
DEPARTMENT: Health & Human Services
PRESENTED BY: Rob Rockstroh



AGENDA TITLE: ORDER _____ / IN THE MATTER OF ESTABLISHING ONE FULL TIME (1.0 FTE) NURSE PRACTITIONER POSITION FOR THE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 13, 2005 AND APPROPRIATING AN ADDITIONAL \$70,243 IN REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES FOR FY 2005-2006 IN FUND 285 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

I. MOTION

ORDER _____ / In the Matter of Establishing One Full-Time (1.0 FTE) Nurse Practitioner Position for the Community Health Centers effective September 13, 2005 and Appropriating an Additional \$70,243 in Revenue and Expenditures for FY 2005-2006 in Fund 285 Department of Health & Human Services.

II. ISSUE OR PROBLEM

The Human Services Commission's Community Health Centers is seeking to add one full-time (1.0 FTE) Nurse Practitioner position to increase clinical provider capacity to provide primary health care to persons infected by HIV and to those with serious and persistent mental illness.

III. DISCUSSION

A. Background

The Community Health Centers desires to implement integrated primary care services for persons with serious and persistent mental illness and to those infected by HIV. Services would be provided on-site at Lane County Mental Health and a HIV service site as well as outreach to non-profit mental health organization sites.

An additional Nurse Practitioner is needed for the implementation of the Community Health Centers of Lane County's expanded scope of practice.

B. Analysis

CHCLC is interested in expanding its scope of practice to add a Nurse Practitioner position that would provide primary care service at sites that serve persons with severe and persistent mental illness and persons with HIV/AIDS.

To more effectively treat individuals with mental illness we are proposing co-locating primary care services at Lane County Mental Health. The proposed approach will ensure more effective coordination between primary care and mental health providers. Having chronic mental illness can affect physical well-being and can be associated with the high prevalence of other illness such as diabetes, foot problems, hypertension, tobacco abuse, asthma, obesity, heart disease, cancer, and HIV. Additionally, long term use of some psychotropic medications can lead to physical health problems without proper preventative care.

Further, by co-locating primary care at a site where social services and case management are being provided to persons with HIV/AIDS, patients will have a greater ability to adhere to medication compliance, receive appropriate medical referrals, health education and support. Research has enabled persons with HIV to lead fuller, more productive lives. For many managing up to thirty pills a day accompanied by their respective side effects is a daily challenge. Reductions and cuts to health care have made it extremely difficult for some of these patients to get insurance that ensures regular health care, HIV medications, and other medications.

This program will allow extra time in primary care visits for providers to deal with the more complex medical issues presented by these individuals. The program is to be staffed with a nurse practitioner who has a more flexible schedule than physicians in commercial health practices. Routine appointments may be 30 to 45 minutes. In this approach, primary care providers will be able to develop a better understanding of why patients fail to follow through on health care advice and develop more effective strategies. Information sharing will be greatly improved, where the importance of an integrated medical record is recognized.

The Nurse Practitioner will be funded by third-party reimbursements for those insured by the Oregon Health Plan (OHP), Medicare, private insurance, and patient fees. Additionally, a request for letters of interest is being conducted for the on-site availability of a county Nurse Practitioner for services to HIV-positive patients to see which organizations in the community would like to pay us for the availability of a Nurse Practitioner. In this way we will address the competitive selection process for the availability of our services. A change of scope application is being submitted to the federal HRSA Bureau of Primary Care to have these new sites included under the FQHC that will provide for a higher level of reimbursement for Medicare and OHP patients.

C. Alternative / Options

1. To establish one full-time (1.0 FTE) Nurse Practitioner position for the Community Health Centers effective September 13, 2005 and appropriate an additional \$70,243 in revenue and expenditures for FY 2005-2006 in Fund 285 Department of Health & Human Services.
2. Not to establish one full-time (1.0 FTE) Nurse Practitioner position for the Community Health Centers effective September 13, 2005 and appropriate an additional \$70,243 in revenue and expenditures for FY 2005-2006 in Fund 285 Department/ of Health & Human Services.

D. Recommendation

To approve the motion stated above.

E. Timing

This position will be established as soon as possible after Board approval.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION / FOLLOW-UP

Upon Board approval, revenues and expenditures will be increased in Health & Human Services and Lane County Human Resources will create a position number and post this position.

V. ATTACHMENT

Board Order

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION AND ORDER:) IN THE MATTER OF ESTABLISHING ONE FULL-TIME (1.0 FTE)
) NURSE PRACTITIONER POSITION FOR THE COMMUNITY
) HEALTH CENTER EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 13, 2005 AND
) APPROPRIATING AN ADDITIONAL \$70,243 IN REVENUE AND
) EXPENDITURES FOR FY 2005-2006 IN FUND 285 DEPARTMENT
) OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

WHEREAS, persons with severe and persistent mental illness and those infected with HIV/AIDS are in need of primary care services; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of a program targeting persons with severe and persistent mental illness and those infected with HIV/AIDS requires the addition of a Nurse Practitioner to effectively carryout the program; and

WHEREAS, the addition of a Nurse Practitioner will increase revenue and expenditures for the Community Health Center;

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Board of County Commissioners establish one full-time (1.0 FTE) Nurse Practitioner position for the Community Health Centers services effective September 13, 2005 and appropriate an additional \$70,243 in revenue and expenditures for FY 2005-2006 in Fund 285 Department of Heath & Human Services.

DATED this ____ day of September, 2005

Anna Morrison, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM
Date 8/31/05 Lane county
Laidlaw
OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL