



Health & Human Services Agency COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

KUYLER CROCKER District One

PETE VANDER POEL District Two

> AMY SHUKLIAN District Three

EDDIE VALERO District Four

DENNIS TOWNSEND District Five

AGENDA DATE: January 29, 2019

SUBJECT:

Approve the request for the Pretrial Felony Mental Health Diversion

Program

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1. Authorize the Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency (HHSA) to participate in the 2019–2022 Pretrial Felony Mental Health Diversion Program through the California Department of State Hospitals.
- 2. Authorize the HHSA to apply for a grant in an amount not to exceed \$2,215,200 over a three-year period.

SUMMARY:

The Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency, Mental Health Branch is seeking funding from the California Department of State Hospitals (DSH) for Pretrial Felony Mental Health Diversion Programs. In June 2018, Assembly Bill 1810 and Senate Bill 215 amended Penal Code Sections 1001.35-1001.36 to authorize pre-trial diversion for individuals with serious mental disorders who committed certain felony crimes. In addition, Welfare and Institution Code 4361 was established to allow for funding opportunities to California counties, by contracting with DSH.

The Tulare County Superior Court reached out to HHSA, specifically with an interest in developing such a program in concert with the HHSA and other partners. If awarded, these funds would support services for a specific target population of individuals with serious mental illness who have the potential to be or are deemed incompetent to stand trial on felony charges. The goal of the funding is to demonstrate effective alternatives to incarceration for some individuals who are arrested and jailed

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because of behaviors caused by their mental illness and/or conditions of homelessness.

To assess the ultimate feasibility of submitting a grant application for the funds, the HHSA Mental Health Branch will collaborate with other local entities, including but not limited to the Sheriff's Department, the District Attorney's Office, the Public Defender, County Probation, Superior Court, and other community partners, to plan and implement a diversion program for the targeted population.

The first round of funding has been completed and was only available to the top fifteen counties, which did not include Tulare County. Tulare County seeks to apply for round two funding, of which \$8.5 million is available to eligible counties. The application process with DSH is completed in two parts for funding consideration. If a successful local model is developed and the partners are comfortable moving forward, the letter of intent is due February 4, 2019, and the complete application is due April 19, 2019. Upon approval of the application, DSH will provide a contractual agreement with Tulare County. This agreement will be brought before your Board at a future date.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The total funding is not to exceed \$2,215,200 over a three-year period. Counties will be notified of selection in May 2019 and funds will be available in June 2019. Tulare County will be required to match 20 percent of the final DSH allocation amount with local funds. This match would be covered initially with 1991 Mental Health Realignment funds. These revenues will be included in the fiscal year 2019/2020, 2020/2021, and 2021/2022 proposed budgets. Given that there is a match associated with this grant, partner agencies and non-profit providers in the program may be able to provide offsetting match, through cash or in-kind contributions. Subject to the availability of 1991 Mental Health Realignment funds, there is no additional net cost to the County General Fund.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's five-year strategic plan includes the Quality of Life initiative to provide innovative programs that promote the health and well-being of Tulare County residents. This agreement targets a vulnerable county population and will help fulfill this obligation by providing support services to individuals with serious mental health illnesses.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

Timothy D Durick, Psy.D. Director of Mental Health

cc: County Administrative Office

Approve the request for the Pretrial Felony Mental Health Diversion SUBJECT:

Program
January 29, 2019 DATE:

Attachment(s)

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR THE PRETRIAL FELONY MENTAL HEALTH DIVERSI PROGRAM) Resolution No ON) Agreement No)
UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISO	OR, SECONDED BY
SUPERVISOR	_, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OF	FICIAL MEETING HELD
, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:	
AYES: NOES: ABSTAIN: ABSENT:	
ATTEST:	JASON T. BRITT COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/ CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BY:	Deputy Clerk
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