

Priority: Basic Needs
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Lead Agency: County Human Services
Program Contact: Karl Brimner

Executive Summary

This program offer would expand African-American specific treatment in our community to address the under representation of African-Americans in appropriate mental health treatment. Prompt, community based treatment focused on African-American clients with culturally competent staff, can divert African-Americans with mental health issues from behavior which results in commitment to the hospital and/or involvement in the criminal justice system. African-Americans are four times more likely to be placed in the hospital involuntarily than members of other minority groups. This is a costly and inappropriate way to provide treatment for African-American clients.

Program Description

Nationally, African-Americans, particularly young men are dropping out of school, overrepresented in the criminal justice system, overrepresented in foster care and under represented in community mental health treatment. This offer will expand both the numbers and age ranges of African-American clients treated in the County. Programs will be expected to: organize or provide comprehensive health, mental health and addictions evaluations; provide assertive community treatment, intensive case management, and crisis management based on the individual needs of clients; improve family relationships and community support systems; assist in medication management and medical follow-up; and link to services in the African-American community. Treatment would be provided in a culturally specific environment supported by traditional helpers within the African-American community.

Program Justification

This offer redirects dollars from costly and ineffective reliance on law enforcement and other crisis resources, and towards services that support low-risk offenders and mentally ill persons who are involuntarily held in hospitals. It will contribute to safer neighborhoods, provide assertive, targeted care for persons with mental illnesses, and make progress toward the County's commitment to reducing over-representation of African-Americans in the criminal justice system.

While African-Americans are served in higher numbers than most culturally specific groups, they are nonetheless four times more likely to be placed on an involuntary hold than members of those same groups. This offer will seek to identify and address the reasons for this disparity. The offer will likewise examine existing resources available to the African-American community to determine how better to align those services with the community's specific needs.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY05-06)	Current Year Purchased (FY06-07)	Current Year Estimate (FY06-07)	Next Year Offer (FY07-08)
Output	Treated in criminal justice or involuntary commitment systems.	0	0	0	150
Outcome	Diverted from incarceration or commitment	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	40.0%

Performance Measure - Description

Output: 150 persons will be identified as individuals who could be diverted from the criminal justice or involuntary commitment systems.

Outcome: 40% of those persons will successfully avoid incarceration or involuntary treatment for the episode addressed by the program.

Legal/Contractual Obligation**Revenue/Expense Detail**

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2007	2007	2008	2008
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$652,000	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$652,000	\$0
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$41,337	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$99,280	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$140,617	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$0	\$792,617	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$792,617	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Revenue of \$652,000 is County General Funds.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was:
Did not exist.