

**Lee County Board Of County Commissioners  
Agenda Item Summary**

Blue Sheet No. 2005 0018

May 3, 2005

**1. ACTION REQUESTED/PURPOSE:**

Authorize the Department of Human Services to apply for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Targeted Capacity Expansion Grant for Jail Diversion Programs. Authorize Board Chairman to sign the grant application and certifications. Authorize Board Chairman to sign Memorandums of Understanding and Agreement with partnering public and non-profit entities.

**2. WHAT ACTION ACCOMPLISHES:**

Authorizes the Department of Human Services to submit the application in accordance with SAMHSA guidelines which require signed certifications and executed Memorandums of Understanding and Agreement with partnering organizations for the application

**3. MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATION:** Authorize Human Services to apply for the SAMHSA grant.

**4. Departmental Category:** 05

*C5A*

**5. Meeting Date:**

*05-17-2005*

**6. Agenda:**

- Consent
- Administrative
- Appeals
- Public
- Walk-On

**7. Requirement/Purpose: (specify)**

- Statute
- Ordinance
- Admin. Code
- Other

**8. Request Initiated:**

Commissioner N/A  
 Department Human Services  
 Division N/A  
 By: Karen B. Hawes

**9. Background:**

The Department of Human Services is requesting up to \$400,000 annually in federal funds from SAMHSA for a three-year period for the planning and implementation of an Integrated Mental Health and Criminal Justice System. This application is a collaborative effort between the Department of Human Services, Court Administration, the Department of Children and Families, Southwest Florida Addiction Services, Ruth Cooper Center for Behavioral Health, Florida Gulf Coast University, the Public Defenders Office, the State Attorney's Office, the Department of Corrections, and the Lee County Sheriff's Office.

If awarded, the grant requires a 25% match requirement. Match funds will come from existing resources currently devoted to jail diversion efforts such as the forensic specialist at the Ruth Cooper Center, the jail social worker who performs mental health assessments, and other personnel in the State Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, and Pre-Trial Services who already perform duties related to jail diversion of persons with a mental illness. The grant seeks to enhance the existing foundation that has been established through initiatives such as: Mental Health Court, the forensic specialist working with pre-trial services, and the competency restoration program. An informal forensic advisory committee meets on a regular basis. This group will serve as the diversion coordination team.

Attachments: Grant Application Data Form  
 Project Summary

Application for Federal Assistance--Standard Form 424 (to be attached to the blue sheet no later than 5/10/05)

**10. Review for Scheduling:**

Department Director	Procurement or Contracts	Human Resources	Other	County Attorney	Budget Services			County Manager/P.W. Director
<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	N/A	N/A	<i>[Signature]</i>	Analyst	Risk	Grants	<i>[Signature]</i>
					<i>RKSH</i>	<i>5/3/05</i>	<i>5/4/05</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>

**11. Commission Action:**

- Approved
- Deferred
- Denied
- Other

Rec. by CoAtty  
 Date: *5/7/05*  
 Time: *5:00*  
*Admin styles*

RECEIVED BY  
 COUNTY ADMIN: *[Signature]*  
 5-4-05 *NR*  
 9:55am  
 COUNTY ADMIN  
 FORWARDED TO: *PL*  
 5/5/05  
 3pm

**GRANT APPLICATION DATA FORM**

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT/DIVISION: Human Services

Contact Person: Karen Hawes

Telephone #: 533-7930

Were the services of the County's grant development consultant utilized for this application?  
(For ex. Full proposal preparation, consultation, research, phone inquiry, etc.) **YES** **NO**

If you answered YES, please briefly explain: Application is being prepared by Robertson Consulting

NAME OF GRANT: Targeted Capacity Expansion Grant for Jail Diversion

GRANTOR AGENCY: SAMHSA

Is this grant a "Pass-Through" of Federal Funds to State?  
 Yes  No  Unknown

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTAL: 24-May-05

GRANT AMOUNT: \$400,000

**MATCHING REQUIREMENTS (include how the matching will be met):**

Requires 25% match. Match funds will come from existing resources currently devoted to jail diversion efforts such as the forensic specialist at the Ruth Cooper Center, the jail social worker who performs mental health assessments, and other personnel in the State Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, and Pre-Trial Services who already perform duties related to jail diversion of persons with a mental illness

**PURPOSE OF GRANT:**

The grant seeks to enhance the existing foundation that has been established through the Mental Health Court program, the forensic specialist working with pre-trial services, the Public Defender and State Attorney's office, and the competency restoration program. Connects representatives from the mental health and criminal justice systems to form a continuum of services for persons with a mental illness.

**IMPACT STATEMENTS**

**Please describe the benefit of this grant to the community.**

Enhances services and prevents unnecessary incarceration for persons with a mental illness.

Jail time should be decreased for this population. Data will be collected for program evaluation.

**Please describe the operational impact to Lee County Government.**

A unit of local government is required to be the applicant. Human Services will serve as the grant manager and will contract with the Ruth Cooper Center and other local entities for project implementation and evaluation.

[Signature]  
Department Grant Administrator/designee

5/3/05  
Date

[Signature]  
Department Director

5/3/05  
Date

## **SUMMARY: Integrated Mental Health and Criminal Justice System**

The criminalization of mental illness results from the lack of access to and deficiency in appropriate, community-based care. Once arrested, the targeted population is trapped in a cycle of arrest, homelessness, and criminal activity. In order to address this problem, the Diversion Coordination Team will offer the services of a comprehensive diversion program that integrates the mental health and criminal justice system. This model connects representatives from the involved entities (both mental health and criminal justice), forming a **seamless continuum** (See attached diagram.)

Unlike many programs, the Diversion Coordination Team allows the targeted population to access a variety of services, based on an individualized treatment plan. Clients receiving services from the Diversion Coordination Team are eligible **at any point of access or identification** in the legal system. Moreover, the Diversion Coordination Team has the capacity to expedite resolution to legal issues with clients who are not appropriate for diversion and to continue services to decrease recidivism once legal matters are resolved.

Additionally, the benefits of addressing the criminalization of mental illness through a comprehensive and integrated system, the Diversion Coordination Team accounts for the need for increased data surrounding the topic of jail diversion. Implementation of the Diversion Coordination Team will offer opportunity for **increased and prolonged data collection and evaluation** of a comprehensive program that integrates the mental health and criminal justice systems.

# Integrated Mental Health and Criminal Justice Systems

