

County of Santa Clara
Santa Clara Valley Health & Hospital
System
Alcohol & Drug Services



HHS03 081903

Reviewed by: Amelia Whitlow
Administrative Services
Manager II

Submitted by: Robert Garner
Director, Department of
Alcohol and Drug
Services

DATE: August 19, 2003

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Sillen".

Robert Sillen
Executive Director, Santa Clara Valley Health & Hospital System

SUBJECT: Acceptance of Notice of Grant Award (NGA) for \$1.2 Million from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Consider recommendations relating to grant award for \$1.2 Million from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

Possible action:

- a. Accept Notice of Grant Award (NGA) of \$1.2 million over three years (\$400,000 per year beginning 6/1/03) from SAMHSA, an agency of the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, to expand Dual Diagnosis services in Department of Alcohol and Drug Services (DADS) and Santa Clara County Superior Court.
- b. Approve Request for Appropriation Modification No. 019 – \$ 400,000 increasing revenue and expenditures in the Department of Alcohol and Drug Services. (4/5 Roll Call Vote)
- c. Introduction and preliminary adoption of Salary Ordinance No. NS-5.03.8 amending Santa Clara County Salary Ordinance No. NS-5.03.8 relating to the compensation of employees adding 1.0 Psychiatric Social Worker II (Y41) or Marriage Family Therapist II (P97) or Psychiatric Social Worker I (Y42) or Marriage Family Therapist I (P96) to Department of Alcohol and Drug Services. (Roll Call Vote to waive reading, Roll Call Vote to adopt)
- d. Approve delegation of authority to Director, Alcohol and Drug Services, to execute contracts with providers selected by a competitive bid process relating to dual diagnosis treatment services in amounts not to exceed \$132,000 for four residential treatment beds and \$80,000 for 20 outpatient counseling slots for period October 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004 and to execute amendments to the agreement to increase the maximum financial obligation in an amount not to exceed 10%, to amend terms of the the agreement such as units of service, or any other provisions, following approval by County Counsel as to form and legality. Delegation of authority shall expire on June 30, 2004.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no negative impact to the County General Fund as a result of this action. Acceptance of the Notice of Grant Award allows \$1.2 million dollars to flow into Santa Clara County over three years. The Spending Plan (Attachment 1) outlines the use of these funds for FY 04 totaling \$400,000. The plan has been reviewed and accepted by the Steering Committee which includes members from Department of Alcohol and Drug Services, Mental Health, Superior Court, MH Drug Court, District Attorney, Public Defender and Probation departments.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Accepting this three-year \$1.2 million grant award and approving the related budget modification and salary ordinance amendment will allow the County to support a Dual Diagnosis Drug Court and provide the assessment and treatment required for it to operate. Acceptance of the Notice of Grant Award (NGA) constitutes execution of the contract between the County and the federal Department of Health and Human Services.

An additional benefit is a projected savings of \$3 million in County costs of incarceration for these clients that would probably fail the regular drug court and end up back in jail without these specialized services. Authorizing the Director,

Alcohol and Drug Services to execute contracts with providers selected in a competitive bid process will allow the Department to move quickly to implement the grant program as required by the granting agency. The Psychiatric Social Worker/Marriage & Family Therapist is needed as a case manager to assess clients and link them with the appropriate services.

BACKGROUND

Working in conjunction with the Superior Court and the Mental Health Department, the Department of Alcohol and Drug Services submitted a proposal to SAMHSA in June of 2002 in response to a Request for Proposals for the creation of new, or the enhancement of existing, Drug Treatment Courts. The County's proposal was designed to provide additional services to under-served dual diagnosis clients in the special Friday sessions of the Drug Treatment Court operated by Judge Stephen Manley of the Superior Court. It was projected that these services would save the County \$3 million in the costs of incarcerating clients who were most likely to fail the regular Drug Treatment Court and end up back in jail. Most of these clients are not eligible to receive ongoing services from the Department of Mental Health and were therefore the most likely to fail in alcohol and drug recovery programs and consequently in the Drug Treatment Court.

Because these dual diagnosis clients had such a high failure rate, they were often held in jail for unnecessarily long periods of time. The grant proposal provided an opportunity to fill the gaps in the two systems. Funding was requested for a case manager who could assess clients and connect them to the most appropriate services and then follow up to ensure that clients actually had their needs met at the programs to which they were referred. Because alcohol/drug funding is not adequate to meet the need, clients frequently experience delays in receiving access to needed services. To avoid the consequences of this shortfall of services special residential treatment beds and outpatient slots were requested which will be controlled by the Dual Diagnosis Court team on behalf of the dual diagnosis clients.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Failure to approve the recommended actions would result in the loss of \$1.2 million to the County in federal funding which would impact the potential of the County saving substantial amounts in unnecessary incarceration costs, and impact the success of participants in the Dual Diagnosis Drug Treatment Court.

ATTACHMENTS

- (Transmittal submitted on Aug 12, 2003 11:08:39 AM – PDF Version)
- SAMHSA Spending Plan (Miscellaneous)
- F85 (Appropriation Modification (F-85))
- NS-5.03.8 (Ordinances)

- Notice of Grant Award (Miscellaneous)