



Agenda Item Summary

File #: 23-00465

Agenda Date: 8/22/2023

Agenda Item Name:

Criminal Justice, Mental Health & Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant (CJMHSAG) Planning Committee Accomplishments Report for Grant Cycle 5

Presenter:

Amy Weber, Department of Court Services, (352) 374-3676
Don Savoie, Meridian Behavioral HealthCare, Inc

Description:

Criminal Justice, Mental Health & Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant (CJMHSAG) Planning Committee Advisory Board Accomplishments Report, covering the entirety of Grant Cycle Five, April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2023

Recommended Action:

Accept the Report as submitted

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Fiscal Note:

No Fiscal Impact for Accomplishments Report

Strategic Guide:

All Other Mandatory and Discretionary Services

Background:

The mission of the CJMHSAG Grant Planning Committee is to promote a system of identification, assessment, and negotiation to effectively divert those with mental illness, substance use, homelessness, and involvement in the local criminal justice system, to appropriate services and housing. Treatment and case management services are key service elements in this Program, delivered in conjunction with supportive services including access to medications, housing, transportation, among others. The Program also offers assistance to eligibility for disability benefits if appropriate and the engagement of peer support services is broadly encouraged.

The CJMHSAG Reinvestment Grant Planning Committee serves as an advisory board to the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners. The Committee is established under Florida Statute 394 and is thereby charged with oversight of the work conducted by the Meridian Forensic Team. This initiative is supported by grant funds provided by the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF).

Funding from DCF is matched through the combined efforts (cash and in-kind) of Alachua and Bradford Counties, and Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, which serves as grantee agency, program vendor and administrator.

The Accomplishments Report is based on activities accomplished during the entirety of Grant Cycle Five, covering April 1, 2020, through March 31, 2023. Analyses of program data was conducted and provided by the 8th Judicial Circuit, and it identifies that the key goal of increasing public safety is being achieved through reduced criminal recidivism, specifically resulting in fewer arrests, charges, and the number of jail days.