



Agenda Item Summary

File #: 25-00396

Agenda Date: 7/8/2025

Agenda Item Name:

Lutheran Services of Florida Agreement for the FY2024-25 Coordinated Opioid Recovery Program

Presenter:

Claudia Tuck, Director of Community Support Services 352-264-6704
Harold Theus, Chief 352-384-3101

Description:

Lutheran Services of Florida Agreement for the FY2025-26 \$707,974.00 Coordinated Opioid Recovery Program grant funds and the addition of 5.0 FTEs (2.0 MRT Peer Specialists, 1.0 Case Manager I and 2.0 Paramedics).

Recommended Action:

Approve Agreement, Adopt the Resolution, Approve the Budget Amendment, authorize 5.0 additional FTEs (2.0 MRT Peer Specialists, 1.0 Case Manager I, and 2.0 Paramedics), and authorize an interfund loan in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.00.

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Fiscal Note:

Lutheran Services of Florida (LSF) is providing Alachua County funding for the Coordinated Opioid Recovery Program (CORE) of \$707,974.00 for FY2025-26 (139.54.5413.334.6900 State Grants Other Human Services). The LSF approved budget includes the addition of 5.0 FTEs at an estimated cost of \$489,936.00 (139.54.5413.569.12.10 Reg Salary Adj for Budget Only) and, \$218,038.00 for Operating equipment and supplies (139.54.5413.569 Various Operating line items). The Opioid Abatement Direct allocation funding will be used to supplement the CORE funding in future years. In addition, there will be annual reviews of service levels and other programmatic needs with corresponding budget adjustments to ensure the program funding is sustainable. An interfund loan not to exceed \$400,000.00 is necessary for cash flow purposes.

Strategic Guide:

Social and Economic Opportunity

Background:

States are in the process of implementing administrative structures to disburse an expected \$50 billion

awarded to states and localities from opioid-related lawsuits, which includes \$26 billion awarded to 46 states as part of the National Opioid Lawsuit. Florida's part of the settlement is an estimated \$3.2 billion. The amount will vary each year with the first payment being the largest. The money from the settlement is to be used solely for the purpose of remediating and abating the impact of the opioid crisis.

Alachua requested \$707,974.00 for FY2025-26 for the Coordinated Opioid Recovery Program (CORE). The funding, in conjunction with our 24-hour rescue units and Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) team, will enable the County to expand coverage for Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) to 7 days per week. The integration of services ensures that participants receive continuous care, no matter the time of day, significantly improving their access to treatment and support. The CORE team will provide peer support coaching and help build a strong recovery network. The team will also offer mental health services and make necessary referrals to ensure participants are receiving appropriate care. Additionally, the team will provide critical MAT during withdrawal periods, bridging the gap for those who have not yet connected with a provider.

Staff recommend that the FY2025-26 funds be used to add 5.0 FTEs (2.0 MRT Peer Specialists, 1.0 Case Manager I, and 2.0 Paramedics) and various operating expenditures. The County is allowed to roll over unspent funds from year-to-year. There will be a reduction in the County's share of CORE funding in FY2026-27, however, the program can be supplemented with the Opioid Abatement Direct Allocation funding. In addition, there will be annual reviews of service levels and other programmatic needs with corresponding budget adjustments to ensure the program funding is sustainable.

An interfund loan in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.00 is necessary for cash flow purposes.