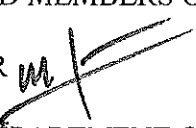


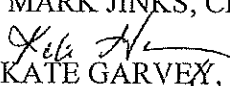
City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE. JULY 27, 2015

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

THROUGH: MARK JINKS, CITY MANAGER 

FROM:  KATE GARVEY, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND HUMAN SERVICES

SUBJECT: DCHS GRANT APPLICATION TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES TO EXPAND JAIL DIVERSION SERVICES

The Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) issued a grant solicitation on July 12, 2015 to Community Services Boards for proposals to expand jail diversion services. The current solicitation is almost identical to the application which was approved by City Council at the April 22, 2014 meeting, but was not selected for funding.

As the grant submission deadline is August 17, 2015 when City Council is not in session, staff has received permission from the City Manager to submit an application pending formal approval at the September 8, 2015 City Council Meeting.

One key difference in the current solicitation is that these state funds are ongoing. Last year's solicitation was for one-time funding. The current solicitation notes that grants of up to \$185,000 will be awarded. With the current solicitation, staff anticipates requesting funding similar to the 2014 request. Funding will likely be requested for one FTE Senior Therapist (Grade 21) who will work the early morning hours in Alexandria Detention Center Booking to help evaluate persons booked overnight and present evaluation findings to judges in the morning at the arraignment hearings. Additional research and work needs to be conducted in consultation with other criminal justice partners to determine the best approach. The goal is to present information that judges can consider when determining diversion opportunities. In addition to requesting funding for one FTE, funding for client services (e.g., psychiatry hours, medications, and housing) may also be requested although those details are still being evaluated. The specific components of the proposal, which will be completed within the next few weeks, will be provided in the September 8, 2015 Docket Memorandum.

DBHDS will provide notification of funding awards by September 4, 2015. This grant requires no matching funds and there is no requirement for an ongoing funding commitment. The City is responsible for the normal administrative activities associated with this grant and existing administrative staffing will provide these functions. There are no funds available in the DCHS budget to continue the grant activities once awarded funds are expended. The position funded through this award would terminate upon the expiration of the grant funds.

cc Debra Collins, Deputy City Manager