

RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Katherine Luster
INITIATED BY

Human Services Board
SUBMITTED BY



Greg Winkler
DRAFTED BY

July 26, 2018
DATE DRAFTED

Adding 2.0 FTE Behavioral Health Clinicians Designated for School Based Diversion Project

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2
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WHEREAS, youth with mental health conditions are more likely to have police contact and thereby be referred into the juvenile justice system; and,

WHEREAS, these referrals often lead to increased future risk of involvement in the criminal justice system and less focus on adequate behavioral health treatment; and,

WHEREAS, youth with mental health needs and lower criminogenic risk are better served in treatment programs that address the root causes of their behaviors; and,

WHEREAS, School Based Diversion programs are proven to decrease unnecessary entry into juvenile justice systems; and,

WHEREAS, Rock County is partnering with the Beloit School District and the Beloit Police Department to begin School Based Diversion services on September 4, 2018; and,

WHEREAS, there is a need for services to provide treatment following the School Based Diversion referrals; and,

WHEREAS, the success of the School Based Diversion program will be dependent upon the immediate availability of treatment following the assessment recommendations, and treatment services for youth in the community are often difficult to access; and,

WHEREAS, the Human Services Department requests that the County Board approve the addition of 2.0 FTE Behavioral Health Clinicians for the Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) Program to provide treatment services for School Based Diversion (SBD) clients; and,

WHEREAS, these positions are cost-neutral due to the funding structure of CCS at the state level.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this 13th day of September, 2018 does hereby approve the Department to create 2.0 FTE Behavioral Health Clinicians for the School Based Diversion program.

18-9A-080

Respectfully submitted,

HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Brian Knudson

Brian Knudson, Chair

Absent

Sally Jean Weaver-Landers, Vice Chair

Stephanie Aegerter

Stephanie Aegerter

Vicki L. Brown

Vicki L. Brown

Terry Fell

Terry Fell

Absent

Ashley Kleven

Kathy Schultz

Kathy Schultz

Terry Thomas

Terry Thomas

Shirley Williams

Shirley Williams

COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE

J. Russell Podzilni

J. Russell Podzilni, Chair

absent

Mary Mawhinney, Vice Chair

Richard Bostwick

Richard Bostwick

Henry Brill

Henry Brill

Betty Jo Bussie 9/11/18

Betty Jo Bussie

Louis Peer

Louis Peer

Alan Sweeney

Alan Sweeney

Terry Thomas

Terry Thomas

Bob Yeomans

Bob Yeomans

FISCAL NOTE:

The cost of these positions are funded by Medicaid reimbursement.

Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to §59.22(2), Wis. Stats.

Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.

Josh Smith

Josh Smith
County Administrator

Executive Summary

Adding 2.0 FTE Behavioral Health Clinicians Designated for School Based Diversion Project

Rock County Human Services has partnered with the Beloit School District and the Beloit Police Department to develop the School Based Diversion program starting on September 4, 2018. This resolution creates Behavioral Health Clinician positions within the Comprehensive Community Services Program (CCS) to support access to care for youth through this initiative. The focus of this program is to divert youth from the juvenile justice system when there are unmet behavioral health needs contributing to the risk for arrest and/or referral to juvenile justice system. Youth who are referred to the police and then to juvenile justice have an increased risk of repeated criminal behavior while youth who engage in treatment are better able to manage mental health conditions that contribute to disruptive behavior. This resolution provides a treatment alternative that is more likely to meet the needs of these youth.

When a youth is at risk for arrest in school, a brief assessment will be conducted to assess for mental health needs. If the assessment supports the need for mental health services, the student will be referred for behavioral health treatment as a diversion from arrest. The addition of two Behavioral Health Clinicians in the CCS program will significantly increase access to care for the identified youth, so the root cause of the behavior problems can be adequately addressed. Comprehensive Community Services is a program that is well suited to serve youth at risk of juvenile justice involvement because CCS provides services that include treatment, skill development, and psychoeducation for family members, and case management supports.

Because Comprehensive Community Services is fully funded by Medicaid, the addition of these positions is cost neutral in the Human Services Department Budget.