

Executive Summary Form

Agenda Number: 7072 – Scheduled for May 9, 2023 BOS Meeting

Recommendation:

Approve the addition of two (2) FTE Community Health Worker (CHW) grant funded positions to be added to the Overdose Prevention Program, effective upon BOS approval.

Background (Brief):

Contract CTR063847 Cochise OD2A was most recently accepted by the Board of Supervisors on February 21, 2023. One of the objectives of the grant is to increase linkages to care to increase access to opioid treatment services (see page 20 of 27 on the attached IGA.)

Cochise Health and Social Services (CCHSS) administration met with Rich Karwaczka to discuss moving the current Linkages to Care program inhouse. This will require hiring 2 FTE Community Health Workers to provide peer navigation and transportation services to recently released inmates.

We are currently contracted with Helping Others Pursue Enrichment (HOPE), Inc. to provide these services. However, it would be more cost effective and efficient to provide this service in house.

In addition to Mr. Karwaczka's approval, bringing this service in-house has also been discussed and approved by Risk Management and the Arizona Department of Health Services.

Fiscal Impact & Funding Sources:

The funding source for this request is currently budgeted in the Overdose Prevention grant.

Next Steps/Action Items/Follow-up:

Your approvals are respectfully requested.

A requisition for 2 CHWs will be submitted through NEOGov upon approval.

Impact of Not Approving:

The program continues to pay out money to the current contractor. There would be a cost savings hiring and training 2 CCHSS CHWs to provide the service.