



DS RIP Project Proposal Form Regional Healthcare Partnership 8

Instructions: For each proposed project, the provider organization should complete one form. Please include a response for each section, leaving nothing blank. More complete information will assist the IGT entities in understanding what is proposed and what funds are being requested.

Project Proposal Forms are due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 6th. Please submit by email to Lindsay Pollok at lpollok@tamhsc.edu.

DS RIP CATEGORY INFORMATION

- Category 1: Infrastructure Development
 - Category 2: Program Innovation and Re-design
 - Category 3: Quality Improvements
 - Category 4: Population-based Improvements
- Project Area # 8
Project Letter: B

DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF PROJECT:

Emergency Services Diversion Project/Community Health Initiative

COUNTIES SERVED BY PROPOSED PROJECT:

- Bell
- Blanco
- Burnet
- Lampasas
- Llano
- Milam
- Mills
- San Saba
- Williamson

PERFORMING PROVIDER (must be an eligible recipient of draw down funds):

Bluebonnet Trails MHMR, local hospitals

OTHER PARTICIPATING PROVIDERS (if not applicable, answer N/A):

Williamson County EMS & Mobile Outreach Team

GOAL OF PROPOSED PROJECT:

The goal of this project is to identify individuals that are frequent utilizers of emergency services, for the purpose of evaluating, improving and streamlining the delivery of healthcare to patients with multiple or complex needs (often with mental health concerns) with the use of unique comprehensive, coordinated care plans, to be created by multi-disciplinary teams of medical & mental health professions working in collaboration through a Professional Peer Review Committee.

EXPECTED OUTCOME(S) OF PROPOSED PROJECT:

Reduction of inappropriate emergency transports, emergency department use and uncompensated medical care.
Improved quality of care and access to healthcare for patients with complex medical needs. Reduction of inpatient hospitalizations and costs associated with providing emergency services.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT (use only the space allotted):

This project will identify frequent utilizers of emergency services through the use of EMS records, Indigent Care Collaboration EMR statistics, and emergency department reporting. When individuals are identified, their cases and medical records will be reviewed by a committee made up of medical and mental health professionals from five local hospitals, the Williamson County & Cities Health District, MOT, EMS and Bluebonnet Trails Community Services. This committee (tentatively named the Professional Peer Review Committee) will create unique comprehensive plans for patients with multiple needs. A team of an Advanced Paramedic and a licensed social worker (MOT) will then make home visits to patients that are identified as frequent utilizers or "High Alert" patients to ensure medication compliance, connections with appropriate resources, home safety and basic needs are being met. The concept for the review committee has been approved by the Williamson County Attorney's Office as permissible under both State and federal HIPAA laws, and a confidentiality form has been created to ensure privacy of patient information. In addition to medical problems, many of these patients have dual diagnoses of mental health and substance abuse problems. Collaboration and sharing of information by professionals will allow for continuity of care, avoidance of over prescribing, or contra indication of numerous medications prescribed by multiple sources. Once a comprehensive plan has been created local hospitals should follow the plan which will avoid duplication of services and unnecessary lab and medical tests. The High Alert team will make home follow up visits to check vital signs, assist with monitoring of medication compliance, and to assure that patient needs are met. By providing proactive care, costly emergency room and hospital admissions can be avoided, thus reducing costs while improving quality of care.

ANTICIPATED CHALLENGES:

Although we have had one meeting of the Professional Peer Review Committee, a challenge that is expected is getting the appropriate healthcare professionals coordinated to meet monthly for collaboration on challenging cases. Another challenge will be seeking and receiving approval of concept and confidentiality agreements by the legal departments of five local hospitals. It will be a challenge to create an authentication system to ensure users view appropriate sensitive information based on assigned roles and responsibilities. Finally, the creation, maintenance, support, upkeep and security of a database will be an IT challenge, especially with multiple users and possible integration with other systems.

ESTIMATED VALUATION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT BY WAIVER YEAR:

Year 1 (2011-2012): \$ - 0 - "Planning
Year 2 (2012-2013): \$ 295,000
Year 3 (2013-2014): \$ 249,000
Year 4 (2014-2015): \$ 255,000
Year 5 (2015-2016): \$ 262,000

NOTE: If your proposed project is ultimately included in the regional plan, you will be required to also provide baseline data and work with the anchor to determine appropriate metrics and milestones for each year of the plan. Details initially included in this proposal may be revised as the final plan is being negotiated.