



Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

2.F
Agenda Item #

Requested Meeting Date: May 8, 2018

Title of Item: Region V+ Adult Mental Health Initiatives

<input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR AGENDA	Action Requested:	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSENT AGENDA		<input type="checkbox"/> Approve/Deny Motion	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item
<input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopt Resolution (attach draft)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing* <i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i>

Submitted by: Kim Larson	Department: HHS
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Presenter (Name and Title):	Estimated Time Needed:
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Summary of Issue:
See attached resolution regarding Region V+ Adult Mental Health Initiative

Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments:

Recommended Action/Motion:
Adopt Resolution

Financial Impact:
 Is there a cost associated with this request? Yes No
 What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$
 Is this budgeted? Yes No *Please Explain:*

Region V+ Adult Mental Health Initiative

WHEREAS, The Aitkin County Board is increasingly seeing the impacts of ongoing reductions in state and federal funding for serious mental illness in our community and the resulting increased rates of serious mental illness in child protection cases and in incarcerations in the county jail at rates three to six times higher than the general population;

WHEREAS, The net effect of these changes is the increasing criminalization of serious mental illness, which reflects an actual change from one kind of institutionally-based care for serious mental illness in which appropriate psychiatric treatment and programming elements were provided in a residential setting to an institutionalized residential setting that is ill-equipped to do the same, which we believe to be a worse system than what we had with the state hospitals;

WHEREAS, without the appropriate treatment and services, people with mental illnesses continue to cycle through the criminal justice system, often resulting in tragic outcomes for these individuals and their families;

WHEREAS, Region V+ Adult Mental Health Initiative (Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Aitkin, Todd and Wadena Counties) takes pride in its responsibility to protect and enhance the health, welfare, and safety of its residents in efficient and cost-effective ways;

WHEREAS, Region V+ Adult Mental Health Initiative will offer a regional Comprehensive Re-Entry Program in partnership with other key stakeholders that will safely reduce the number of adults with mental illnesses in jails by connecting them to community-based treatment and services.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, THAT THE AITKIN COUNTY BOARD, does hereby sign on to the development of our Comprehensive Re-Entry Program as a regional project of the Adult Mental Health Initiative to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in our county jails. We resolve to:

- Apply for funding through the National Joint Powers Alliance to begin our regional efforts around safely reducing the number of people with mental illnesses in jails; and
- Collect and review prevalence numbers and assess individuals' needs to better identify adults entering jails with mental illnesses and their recidivism risk, and use that baseline information to guide decision making at the system, program, and case levels; and
- Examine treatment and service capacity to determine which programs and services are available in the county for people with mental illnesses and co-occurring substance use disorders, and identify state and local policy and funding barriers to minimizing contact with the justice system and providing treatment and supports in the community; and
- Develop a plan with measurable outcomes that draws on the jail assessment and prevalence data and the examination of available treatment and service capacity, while considering identified barriers; and
- Create a process to track progress using data and information systems, and to report on barriers and successes.

Commissioner xx moved for adoption of the resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote:

FIVE MEMBERS PRESENT

All Members Voting Yes

STATE OF MINNESOTA}
COUNTY OF AITKIN}

I, Jessica Seibert, County Administrator, Aitkin County, Minnesota do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing with the original resolution filed in the Administration Office of Aitkin County in Aitkin, Minnesota as stated in the minutes of the proceedings of said Board on the 8th day of May, 2018, and that the same is a true and correct copy of the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and seal this 8th day of May, 2018

Jessica Seibert
County Administrator