



Item Number: _____
(for Comm Ct use only)

AGENDA COORDINATION FORM Bexar County Commissioners Court

Type of Agenda Item (Choose one): Ceremonial <input type="checkbox"/> Special Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Time Certain <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Sponsoring Office/Department: <u>Community Investment</u>		Recipient Agency / Individual Name: <u>N/A</u>		
Contact Person: <u>Aurora Sanchez</u>	Phone Number: <u>335-3421</u>	Court Date Requested: <u>December 18, 2007</u>		
Presenter: <u>Aurora Sanchez</u>	Phone Number: <u>335-3421</u>	Deadline for Action: <u>December 18, 2007</u>		
Audio / Visual Presentation: Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>		PowerPoint? Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>		ADA Assistance Required (type): _____
Official/Department Head Signature:		Small, Minority, Women-owned Business Enterprise (SMWBE): Impact: Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

CAPTION:

Discussion and appropriate action regarding creation of a Mental Health Advocacy Program, including the attached budgetary transfer, effective December 18, 2007.

ESTIMATED PRESENTATION TIME: 10 Minutes

BACKGROUND:

This past summer the County experienced inmate population counts that exceeded the jail capacity by up to 300 inmates a day. Short term strategies were successfully implemented. A study group was formed to explore alternatives to incarceration for select groups of offenders. This study group included representatives from the Sheriff's Office, the Criminal Justice Planning and Coordination Department, the County Courts-at-Law, the Probate Courts, the Community Investment Department, the Planning and Resource Management Department, the University Health System, and the Center for Health Care Services. The study group focused on non-violent, misdemeanor offenders with mental illness.

Data gathered from several sources shows that a considerable number of cases in Bexar County's criminal justice system involve offenders with mental illness. The jail staff estimates approximately 500 inmates in the Adult Detention Center at any given time are being treated for mental illness. Some are in the 240 mental health beds; others are in the general population of the jail. The jail staff also estimates that inmates in mental health beds cost as much as \$200 per inmate per day. Other sources of Bexar County inmate data show that those inmates suffering from mental illness stay incarcerated for longer periods of time and have higher recidivism rates. The County incurs a considerable expense associated with the assignment of court appointed attorneys for these offenders.

The study group identified strategies to work with the recently created Mental Health Court. The goal is to divert non-violent, misdemeanor offenders with mental illness from jail into treatment programs with the intention of reducing their presence in the jail population, reducing the length of their stay in jail, and breaking the cycle of recidivism—re-offending and returning to jail. The FY 2007-08 Adopted Budget included \$1.5 million to fund initiatives that will begin to pursue those strategies, which fall into three major groupings:

- **Diversion.** A working process has been developed in partnership with Pre-Trial Services, the Sheriff's Office, the Center for Health Care Services, and the University Health System to identify eligible program candidates or "Consumers" at the Central Magistration, during the booking activity at the Jail, or from the Jail population. These candidates would be recommended to the Mental Health Court for diversion from jail into treatment. They would be assigned a Mental Health Pre-Trial Officer.
- **Court resolution:** Providing legal representation for the consumer in the County Criminal Court-at-Law is proposed. A Mental Health Public Defender staff of specially trained attorneys will be assigned the responsibility of defending the consumer or working with a court appointed attorney on the Mental Health Wheel. The Public Defender staff will have the responsibility for training and certifying attorneys on the Mental Health Wheel.

- **Treatment:** This is the primary component of this program. It involves the creation of each consumer's treatment plan in partnership with the Court, the Public Defender and the assigned case manager. It also involves the procurement and coordination of treatment from existing service providers in the community such as the Veterans Administration, Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, the Center for Health Care Services, the University Health Systems and others. Most importantly, treatment involves the intense supervision of each individual consumer in the program to ensure that services are received, and the consumer is complying with all aspects of his treatment plan. The ultimate objective of treatment is to break the cycle of offense-jail-release-re-offending and recidivism, by linking up treatment and service providers so that the consumer can be put on the path to recovery and wellness.

PROPOSAL

The study group is proposing the program be developed in phases. The first phase includes the creation of key staff positions and the identification of treatment and support services that will be required.

- **Mental Health Pre-Trial Services.** A Pre-Trial Bond Officer III (Table NE, Grade 7) will be added to the existing Pre-Trial Services staff to provide intensive supervisory to individuals released on mental health bond into this program. The annual cost of this position including benefits is \$42,064.
- **Public Defender Staff.** Four Attorney II (Table E, Grade 10) positions will be created. Two attorneys dedicated to the Criminal Mental Health Court and two attorneys to be dedicated to civil mental health filings. This staff will defend the indigent consumer and work with court appointed attorneys on the Mental Health Wheel. The Public Defender Staff will be housed with the Appellate Public Defender Office and will have the responsibility for training and certifying attorneys on the Mental Health Wheel. Estimated caseload for this new public defender staff will be 1,100 criminal cases and at least 4,000 civil mental health filings per year. These activities will offset costs currently incurred by court appointed attorneys and civil ad-litem attorneys. The total cost of these positions including benefits is \$305,000. Personnel cost for these positions will be funded by reallocating funding from current County Courts-at-Law and Probate Court budgets. There will be a transition period in the reallocation of funds to allow the court to continue to appoint attorneys until the public defender staff positions are filled.
- **Mental Health Advocacy Office.** An initial staff of three professionals will be created. During the "stand up" period for this program, the Executive Director of the Department of Community Investment will oversee the initial phase and will consult regularly with Judges Spencer and Mery and Joan Pedrotti, County Court Administrator. Following the "stand up" period, the Mental Health staff will report directly to the Mental Health Court Judge:
 - A Mental Health Court Manager: (Table E, Grade 11). This position will be created to administer this program County-wide. The manager will direct the case management staff and coordinate with other program stakeholders—especially the public defenders, the mental health court and the Sheriff's office; seek treatment services and administer contracts from community treatment providers; and track and report on program performance measures. The total cost of this position including benefits is \$96,673.
 - Case management staff. Two Mental Health Case Manager (Table E, Grade 6) positions will be created. These two social workers will assist in the development of each consumer's treatment plan, coordinate the provision of treatment from various service providers, and provide intensive supervision to individuals released from jail by the Mental Health Court. An Office Assistant IV (Table NE, Grade 05) position will be created for administrative support. The cost of these three positions including benefits is \$158,342.
- Annualized staff cost estimates including salaries, benefits, equipment and office space will be approximately \$655,000. Of this amount, about \$305,000 will be reallocated from the existing County Court-at-Law and Probate Court budgets. The remaining \$350,000 will be paid for using the \$1.5 million allocated in the General Fund for mental health initiatives.
- **Treatment and Support Services.** The study group identified several areas critical to keeping the mentally ill in treatment and out of jail. In addition to mental health treatment and medication, support services in the following areas must also be funded: housing, transportation, medical treatment, substance abuse treatment etc. Approximately \$650,000 from the \$1.5 million is proposed to be budgeted for treatment and support services.

Within the next 90 days this staff will begin the process to link up treatment and service providers for consumers to receive services that address medical care, counseling, housing, vocational training and employment. Staff should be ready to provide services to consumers before April 1, 2008.

The next phase involves further program development (by June 1, 2008):

- **Transport and DMOT.** Staff will explore options to address transporting of consumers in treatment and consumers with civil commitment issues before the Probate Court. Also, based upon the success in diverting pre-trial and incarcerated inmates, an expansion of the specially trained Sheriff's Deputy Mobile Outreach Team (DMOT) may be requested to deal with mentally ill offenders in the field for diversion before they ever enter the criminal justice system. Approximately \$250,000 is proposed to be budgeted for transport and DMOT.
- **Competency Restoration Program.** In addition to the above initiatives, County staff is in discussion with the Center for Health Care Services exploring the possibility of partnering in the Competency Restoration program. This program focuses on non-violent misdemeanants who were deemed incompetent to participate in their own defense. Currently these offenders are housed either in the jail or are in state hospitals. The proposed program would release eligible candidates from jail and provide them with outpatient competency restoration treatment services. Staff will continue to develop details of the partnership. Approximately \$250,000 is proposed to be budgeted for the Competency Restoration program.

The study group has "Real treatment, Real Tracking and Real Results" as the over arching goals of this initiative. The following are some of the program performance measures that will be tracked and reported on in the first twelve months:

- # of mentally ill misdemeanants who are diverted from jail and into treatment programs.
- # of mentally ill misdemeanants who are diverted from jail and do not re-offend for a period of 12 months
- # of mentally ill misdemeanants who volunteer for Mental Health Court who enter treatment and receive support services.
- # of mentally ill misdemeanants who volunteer for Mental Health Court, enter treatment and receive support services and do not re-offend or enter the jail for a period of 12 months.
- # of mentally ill misdemeanants in both categories who receive assistance and support from their families following stabilization.
- Amount of money spent on the above persons vs. the cost of their incarceration.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Approval of the establishment of the Mental Health Advocacy Program and creation of the positions at the requested tables and grades and placement in County departments and approval of the attached budgetary transfer, effective December 18, 2007.

FISCAL ASSESSMENT: APPLICABLE Yes No Fiscal Note

1	Is this a revenue or expense?	Revenue <input type="checkbox"/>	Expense <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Dollar amount of revenue or expense associated with item?	\$1,805,000.00	
3	Is this a budgeted revenue or expense?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
4	Does this item require additional staff?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
5	Will this increase your current budget?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6	Impact on future Budget? If Yes, Explain in Comments.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	Current End-of-Year Expenditure Estimate-for impacted Object Code(s)?	\$1,805,000.00	
8	If an expense, what is the current Object Code budget amount?	\$1,805,000.00	

9	If an expense, are sufficient funds currently budgeted in the Object Code?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
10	If an expense, are sufficient funds currently budgeted in the Appropriation	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
11	List impacted offices or departments or note if countywide:	Criminal Justice Planning and Coordination, Probate Courts, County Courts-at-Law, Department of Community Investment	
12	Fund number:	001	
13	Org number and Agency Code:	699, 225, 226, 610	
14	Object Code number:	All appropriation units	
15	If this is a grant, what is the estimated amount of program income?	N/A	
16	If this is a grant, what is the amount of Grantor funding?	N/A	
17	If this is a grant, what is the required County cash match?	N/A	
18	If this is a grant, what is the required County in-kind/allocation match?	N/A	
19	If this is a grant, was item approved by the Grant Review Committee?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
20	Comments: Sufficient funding is currently available. The attached budgetary transfer moves funding from the County Court-at-Law, Probate Court and Contingency budgets to the appropriate line items within the respective departments.		
21	Coordinated by: <u>John Diaz</u>	Verified By: <u>Elizabeth Mendez/PRM 12/6/07</u>	

Bexar County
REQUEST FOR BUDGET TRANSFER

Initiating Department: Planning & Resource Management Request Number: BT08-027

Justification for Transfer:

Number of Transfers YTD: 0

Amount YTD: \$0

From Appropriated Fund Balance: \$0

This item transfers funding in the amount of \$998,954 of the currently allocated 1.5 million from Mental Health Contingencies line item in the Non Departmental budget to line items in several department budgets.

This item also transfers funding in the amount of \$152,500 within the Probate Courts Budget from the Court Appointed Attorney Fees line items to the Personnel Services Appropriation.

In addition, \$152,500 within the County Courts-At-Law budget from the Court Appointed Attorney Fees line items to the Personnel Services Appropriation.

The purpose of the following transfer requests are for the establishment of the Mental Health Advocacy Program:

Probate Court:

- \$152,500 within the Probate Courts Budget from Court Appointed Attorney fees to Personnel Services Appropriation for two Attorney II positions

County Courts-at-Law

- \$152,500 within the County Courts-at-Law Budget from Court Appointed Attorney fees to Personnel Services Appropriation for two Attorney II positions

Non-Departmental

- \$15,000 from Mental Health Contingencies to the County Courts-at Law Budget for technology, furniture and supplies associated with the two Attorney II positions
- \$46,499 from Mental Health Contingencies to the Pre-trial Services Budget for one Mental Health Pre-Trial Bond Officer salary, benefits and associated costs (mileage, furniture and technology)
- \$287,455 from Mental Health Contingencies to the Community Investment Department budget for salary and benefits for two Case Managers, one Mental Health Manager, and one Office Assistant IV and associated costs (mileage, furniture and technology).
- \$650,000 from Mental Health Contingencies to the Community Investment Department budget for Mental Health Advocacy Treatment and Support Services including housing, transportation, medical treatment and substance abuse treatment.

The budget division recommends approval of this transfer.

FROM:	FUND	001		Probate Courts	
Agency/ Orgn	Sub Org/ Obj Code	App Unit	Revised Approp.	Object Code Description	Transfer Amount
226/2295	2296/4225	22953 3	\$67,498	Court Appointed Ad Litem - Guardian	\$22,500
226/2295	2296/4224	2295	\$16,000	Court Appointed Ad Litem	\$130,000
				TOTAL:	\$152,500
TO:	FUND	001		Probate Courts	
Agency/ Orgn	Sub Org/ Obj Code	App Unit	Revised Approp.	Object Code Description	Transfer Amount
226/2295	2296/0110	22951	\$1,255,436	Salary-Regular	\$117,552
226/2295	2296/1090	22951	\$89,840	Social Security/ Med.	\$8,993
226/2295	2296/1095	22951	\$24,288	Retirement	\$11,638
226/2295	2296/1210	22951	\$3,215	Group Life Insurance	\$252
226/2295	2296/1211	22951	\$109,965	Group Health Insurance	\$13,200
226/2295	2296/1414	22951	\$6,650	Workers Comp.	\$700
226/2295	2296/1420	22951	\$1,751	Unemployment Insurance	\$165
				TOTAL:	\$152,500
FROM:	FUND	001		County Courts-at-Law	
Agency/ Orgn	Sub Org/ Obj Code	App Unit	Revised Approp.	Object Code Description	Transfer Amount
225/2290	2291/4222	22903	\$2,847,498	Court Appointed Attorney Misdemeanor	\$152,500
				TOTAL:	\$152,500
TO:	FUND	001		County Courts-At-Law	
Agency/ Orgn	Sub Org/ Obj Code	App Unit	Revised Approp.	Object Code Description	Transfer Amount
225/2290	2291/0110	22901	\$4,200,748	Salary-Regular	\$117,552
225/2290	2291/1090	22901	\$268,668	Social Security/ Med.	\$8,993
225/2290	2291/1095	22901	\$387,947	Retirement	\$11,638
225/2290	2291/1210	22901	\$10,007	Group Life Insurance	\$252
225/2290	2291/1211	22901	\$229,845	Group Health Insurance	\$13,200
225/2290	2291/1414	22901	\$17,150	Workers Comp.	\$700
225/2290	2291/1420	22901	\$4,469	Unemployment Insurance	\$165
				TOTAL:	\$152,500

FROM:	FUND	001		Non Departmental	
Agency/ Orgn	Sub Org/ Obj Code	App Unit	Revised Approp.	Object Code Description	Transfer Amount
900/9301	9301/9311	93007	\$1,498,500	Mental Health Contingencies	\$15,000
				TOTAL:	\$15,000
TO:	FUND	001		County Courts-At Law	
Agency/ Orgn	Sub Org/ Obj Code	App Unit	Revised Approp.	Object Code Description	Transfer Amount
225/2290	225/4715	22903	\$15,936	Technology Improv.	\$7,500
225/2290	2291/6023	22904	\$22,085	P Card - Supplies	\$2,000
225/2290	2291/6399	22904	\$22,085	Furniture Minor	\$5,500
				TOTAL:	\$15,000
FROM:	FUND	001		Non Departmental	
Agency/ Orgn	Sub Org/ Obj Code	App Unit	Revised Approp.	Object Code Description	Transfer Amount
900/9300	9301/9311	93007	\$1,452,,501	Mental Health Contingencies	\$46,499
				TOTAL:	\$46,499
TO:	FUND	001		CJPC – Pre-trial	
Agency/ Orgn	Sub Org/ Obj Code	App Unit	Revised Approp.	Object Code Description	Transfer Amount
699/2460	2461/0110	24601	\$2,305,367	Salary-Regular	\$29,781
699/2460	2461/1090	24601	\$233,462	Social Security/ Med.	\$2,278
699/2460	2461/1095	24601	\$178,104	Retirement	\$2,947
699/2460	2461/1210	24601	\$233,274	Group Life Insurance	\$6,600
699/2460	2291/1211	24601	\$264,515	Group Health Insurance	\$66
699/2460	2461/1414	24601	\$24,850	Workers Comp.	\$350
699/2460	2461/1420	24601	\$3,247	Unemployment Insurance	\$42
699/2460	2461/1822	24602	\$1,100	Travel – Local Mileage	\$500
699/2460	2461/4715	24603	\$34,086	Technology Improv.	\$1,935
699/2460	2461/6399	24604	\$2,000	Furniture Minor	\$2,000
				TOTAL:	\$46,499

FROM:	FUND	001		Non Departmental	
Agency/ Orgn	Sub Org/ Obj Code	App Unit	Revised Approp.	Object Code Description	Transfer Amount
900/9300	9301/9311	93007	\$515,046	Mental Health Contingencies	\$937,455
				TOTAL:	\$937,455
TO:	FUND	001		Community Investment	
Agency/ Orgn	Sub Org/ Obj Code	App Unit	Revised Approp.	Object Code Description	Transfer Amount
610/6130	6131/0110	61301	\$744,678	Salary-Regular	\$191,861
610/6130	6131/1090	61301	\$53,527	Social Security/ Med.	\$14,677
610/6130	6131/1095	61301	\$73,069	Retirement	\$18,993
610/6130	6131/1210	61301	\$76,554	Group Life Insurance	\$26,400
610/6130	6191/1211	61301	\$50,569	Group Health Insurance	\$415
610/6130	6131/1414	61301	\$4,900	Workers Comp.	\$1,400
610/6130	6131/1420	61301	\$1,112	Unemployment Insurance	\$269
610/6130	6131/1822	61302	\$1,800	Travel - Local Mileage	\$1,500
610/6130	6131/2600	61303	\$16,200	Building Rental	\$16,200
610/6130	6131/3865	61303	\$650,000	Contract Services	\$650,000
610/6130	6131/4715	61303	\$7,760	Technology Improv.	\$7,740
610/6130	6131/6399	61304	\$11,600	Furniture Minor	\$8,000
				TOTAL:	\$937,455

EM

APPROVED:

Budget Services Division:

Date: December 6, 2007

Robert A. Hansen



BEXAR COUNTY
PLANNING & RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

HUMAN RESOURCES NOTE

TO: Commissioners Court
FROM: Anthony Sciaraffa
Compensation Coordinator

DATE: December 18, 2007

CAPTION:

Discussion and appropriate action regarding creation of a Mental Health Advocacy Program.

BACKGROUND:

Community Investment is requesting to create a Mental Health Advocacy Office, staffed by three mental health professionals, reporting directly to the Department of Community Investment:

- Two (2) Mental Health Case Managers (E-06), responsible for assisting with the development of each client's treatment plan, coordinating the provision of treatment from various service providers, and providing intensive supervision to individuals released from jail by the Mental Health Court. The requirements of the positions are graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, Counseling, or Social Work and 3 years of experience in social services related work; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. The annual pay range for this position is \$40,044 - \$60,072.
- One (1) Mental Health Court Manager (E-11), responsible for administering the mental health advocacy program County-wide. The manager will direct the case management staff and coordinate with other program stakeholders—especially the public defenders, the mental health court and the Sheriff's office; seek treatment services and administer contracts from community treatment providers; and track and report on program performance measures. The requirements of the position are graduation from an accredited college or university with a master's degree in mental health, psychology, social work, criminal justice or a closely related field OR a Doctorate of Jurisprudence and three years of progressively responsible social service experience, including two years of supervisory or management experience; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. The annual pay for range for this position is \$60,216 - \$93,336.

ANALYSIS:

Human Resources reviewed the duties and required education and experience levels for the Mental Health Case Manager and Mental Health Advocacy Manager positions and found that they are consistent with other positions at the E-6 and E-11 pay levels, respectively. Examples of positions listed on the Exempt Table, Grade 6 are:

1. **COMMUNITY HEALTH COORDINATOR:** A Bachelor's degree in a Social Science, Business, Management, or a related field and three years planning or administration and policy development experience in social service or health programs; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.
2. **INTAKE/MEDIATION MANAGER:** Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Social/Behavioral Sciences, Social Work, Public Administration or a closely related field and five years mediation, conflict resolution, legal, or social service experience with two years supervisory experience; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.
3. **PLANNING COUNCIL HEALTH PLANNER:** Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Healthcare Administration, Public Administration, Social/Behavioral Sciences or closely related field, and two years grant program administration experience; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Examples of positions listed on the Exempt Table, Grade 11 are:

1. **COUNTY COURTS AT LAW ADMINISTRATOR:** Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice, Public Administration, Management or a closely related field, and four years Court administration experience; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.
2. **CHIEF DEPUTY OF ADMINISTRATION – TAX OFFICE:** Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Human Resources, Marketing, or a closely related field, and three years professional experience in an office setting including one year supervisory experience; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.
3. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER:** Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Business or closely related field and 5 years progressively responsible experience in economic development activities including 2 years supervisory experience or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the creation of the Mental Health Case Manager (E-06) and Mental Health Advocacy Manager (E-11) positions, effective December 18, 2007.

Bexar County Mental Health Initiative

Real Treatment

Real Tracking

Real Results

Development Team

- Hon. Polly Jackson Spencer
- Hon. Michael Mery
- Keith Charlton, Allen Castro and Angela Moore – CJPC
- John Diaz and Hank Reyes – PRM
- Joan Pedrotti – Court Administrator
- Dr. Sally Taylor and Lydia Mesquita – UHS
- Brian Menges – Bexar County Sheriff's Office
- Leon Evans, Charles Boone, Hema Bhakta, and Jean Souza – CHCS
- Nancy Taguacta – Community Investment

Overview

- Estimate of 500 inmates at the Detention Center with some form of mental illness
- 240 beds set aside for this population
- Cost per day of a mental health inmate is \$200
- Average stay is 26 days (1 inmate = \$5,200)

Overview

- Sampled 10 inmates on Mental Health docket
 - Collectively, spent a total of 2,785 days in jail at a cost of \$557,000 in 2007 dollars
 - Total # of arrests = 110 arrests or 11 arrests per defendant
- Recidivism is an issue.

Goals

- Identify mentally ill inmates early in the process.
- Identify their mental health and support services needs and the most appropriate resource.
- Ensure that they are “linked up” with services before leaving Magistration or ADC.
- Provide consistent case management and treatment for one year to maximize stability and reduce recidivism
- Support the development of Competency Restoration in Bexar County

Targeted Population

- **Non-violent, mentally ill inmates who have had more than one incarceration during the previous 12 month period.**
- **Competency Restoration – mentally ill inmates who cannot participate in their defense. Provide them with out-patient treatment rather than being treated in jail or state hospital**

Existing Resources

- Law enforcement
- University Health System
- Center for Health Care Services
- Judicial system – Mental Health Court
- Bexar County Criminal Justice Planning
- Bexar County Department of Community Investment

Needed Resources

- **Intensive Case Management**
- **Access to MH and substance abuse treatment**
- **Medication**
- **Residential Treatment**
- **Coordination with families**
- **Housing including Transitional Housing**
- **Transportation**
- **Re-establish benefits i.e. Social Security, etc.**
- **Vocational Training and Employment**

Plan

- **Develop a systematic approach to diverting non-violent misdemeanants, with mental illness from Criminal Justice to Treatment system**
- **Develop standards, policies and procedures to support the service linkage identified in the case treatment plan**
- **Utilize the Mental Health Court and associated services (CHCS, Community Investments etc.) to facilitate the most consistent methods of keeping the mentally ill in treatment.**

Plan

- **Ensure that the mentally ill have legal representation that also focuses on their compliance with the agreed upon treatment plan.**
- **To ensure that law enforcement is informed about alternatives to incarceration for the mentally ill.**
- **Utilize Pre-Trial services to divert the mentally ill into treatment and out of the jail.**

Mental Health Initiative

- **Utilize the \$1.5 million dollars allocated in the FY 2007-08 Adopted Budget to establish the Mental Health Advocacy Program that will operate in conjunction with the Mental Health Court.**

Mental Health Initiative

- **The Initiative will focus resources on:**
 - **Individualized treatment plans**
 - **Access to treatment and support services**
 - **Reduce the likelihood of they will break the law and return to jail**

Mental Health Initiative

2 points of entry for mentally ill

Pre- Trial

- At Magistration
- Screen for eligibility
- Case treatment plan
- Supervised by MH Pre-trial Bond Officer

Incarceration

- Screen (UHS & CHCS)
- Case treatment plan
- Shared with inmate
- Inmate can volunteer for Mental Health Court program

Mental Health Initiative

Upon acceptance to the Mental Health Court, the case treatment plan will be used by the Mental Health Court Judge to determine the terms of probation and will identify the services to be provided, agencies that will provide the services and periodic review of the mentally ill person's progress.

Plan Outcomes

- **Adherence to terms of bond or probation**
- **Adherence to the case treatment plan**
- **No additional infractions of the law**

Transport and DMOT

- **Once program is operational, staff will explore options to address transporting individuals to treatment or commitment**
- **With a track record on diverting pre-trial and incarcerated inmates, we may request expansion of DMOT to divert mentally ill to treatment rather than arrest**

Recommended Actions

Create Mental Health Advocacy Team:

<u>Position Title</u>	Table-Grade
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1 Mental Health Manager	(E-11)
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2 Caseworkers	(E-06)
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1 Pre-Trial Bond Officer III	(NE-07)
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Recommended Action

4 Staff attorneys to work with Appellate Public Defender Office (Table E, Grade 10)

- 2 for Criminal Mental Health defense**
- 2 for Civil Mental Health filings**

Offsets costs currently incurred by court appointed and civil ad-litem attorneys

Personnel costs (\$305,004) for these positions will be funded from current County Courts-at-Law and Probate Courts

Recommended Action

- Recommend an allocation of \$650,000 for support services e.g. medication, rental assistance, transportation etc.
- Recommend budgeting \$250,000 for partnership with CHCS for Competency Restoration.
- Recommend budgeting \$250,000 for possible expansion of DMOT and Transport.

Timeline

- **March 2008 Initial Hiring of MH Manager and attorneys**
- **April 2008 Completion of process development**
- **May 2008 Full implementation**

Performance Measures Real Treatment, Real Tracking, Real Results

- **# of mentally ill misdemeanants who are diverted from jail and into treatment programs.**
- **# of mentally ill misdemeanants who are diverted from jail and do not re-offend for a period of 12 months**
- **# of mentally ill misdemeanants who volunteer for Mental Health Court who enter treatment and receive support services.**

Performance Measures Real Treatment, Real Tracking, Real Results

- **# of mentally ill misdemeanants who volunteer for Mental Health Court, enter treatment and receive support services and do not re-offend or enter the jail for a period of 12 months.**
- **# of mentally ill misdemeanants in both categories who receive assistance and support from their families following stabilization.**
- **Amount of money spent on the above persons vs. the cost of their incarceration.**

Recommendation

✓ Commissioners Court approve establishment of Mental Health Advocacy program and creation of the positions at the requested tables and grades and placement in County Departments and approval of the budgetary transfers

