



NEVADA COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
AGENCY

Health & Human Services
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Michael Heggarty, MFT

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(Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Program)

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: November 13, 2018

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Phebe Bell

SUBJECT: Resolution approving the receipt of Award 2018-MO-BX-0018 from the U.S. Department of Justice for the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Grant in the maximum amount of \$243,569 for the project period of 1/1/2019 through 12/31/2020; authorizing Alison Lehman, County Executive Officer, to sign the Award Letter on behalf of the County.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: This is a federal grant administered through the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). Funds will be received by the Behavioral Health Department in FY 2018/19 and 2019/20. A budget amendment will be included on the next county wide budget amendment as needed. There are no county general fund dollars required.

BACKGROUND: Last year, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors committed to pursuing the goals of the national Stepping Up initiative, an effort focused on reducing the number of people with mental illness in our jails. On September 25th, the County received notice that the Behavioral Health Department had been awarded \$243,569 from the Department of Justice that will allow Nevada County to make major progress towards this goal through a two-year project beginning January 1, 2019.

The core of this new project is a Justice and Mental Health Collaborative comprised of key partners including Nevada County Behavioral Health, Nevada County Probation, Nevada County Sheriff's Office, Nevada County Public Defender, Nevada County District Attorney, and our jail medical provider Correctional Medical Group. The collaborative will identify and implement a

universal screening tool that will allow for early identification of people with mental illness coming into the jails. The grant will then fund a therapist who will perform follow-up assessments and link qualified individuals to treatment and/or diversion programs.

The data gathered through this process will help Nevada County further understand the disparities between people with and without mental illnesses in our jail in terms of metrics such as recidivism rates and length of stay. Once baseline measures are established, the collaborative will then work together to both reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jail, as well as connect inmates to long-term services to keep them out of jail in the future.

Item Initiated and Approved by: Phebe Bell, MFT, Behavioral Health Director