

CLARK COUNTY STAFF REPORT



DEPARTMENT: BUDGET OFFICE

DATE: January 7, 2014

REQUEST: Add two Jail Discharge Planners

CHECK ONE: Consent CAO

BACKGROUND

This request seeks \$148,500 in ongoing funding to hire two masters level social workers (discharge planners) to work with Sheriff's Office Corrections Reentry staff with discharge planning of mentally ill, homeless, unemployed and otherwise challenged inmates being released from the Clark County Main Jail and Jail Work Center. These two positions would help assess the needs of inmates identified by Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT) from Law Enforcement (LE) or Corrections, and mental health counselors in the jail, as inmates who may be at risk of immediate re-arrest without discharge services. Justification: Annually, approximately 15,000 inmates are booked and released from the Clark County Main Jail and Jail Work Center. A significant number (national figure of 16%) are severely mentally ill; have a longer length of stay, consume a large portion of criminal justice (jail) resources (medical, mental health, supervision and mediations) while incarcerated. Equally at risk for reoffending, are the approximately 70% (US Bureau of Justice) of jail inmates have committed a drug offense, used drugs regularly and 35% were under the influence of drugs at the time of their arrest. Community organizations, with private and or public funding, have volunteered to help provide discharge services for inmates being released from the Clark County jail, but currently the jail does not have professionals to screen and help inmates identify services to help them not reoffend. The hiring of these positions will fill the gap between release from jail, and taking advantage of these services so the person has a better chance of not returning to jail. Outcomes: 1.) Mentally ill inmates, and those who are struggling with chemical dependency, will be placed into programs better suited for their circumstances, and maximum, medium and minimum security jail beds are better used for the individuals with criminological habits, preferences and whom the court feels need to be incarcerated for the safety of our communities. 2.) Research indicates that programs without the critical services of discharge planners (social workers) are not significantly successful.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

None

BUDGET AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

These positions will be funded with on-going Mental Health Sales Tax revenues. Use of these revenues will not detract from any other program currently funded with this revenue. If this request is approved, these positions and budget will be added in the next supplemental budget process.

MJA
OK
5.1

FISCAL IMPACTS

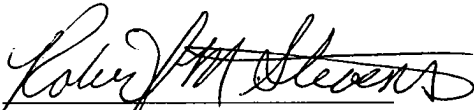
Yes (see attached form)

No

ACTION REQUESTED


Approved the new positions and budget to be confirmed in the next available supplemental budget process.

Submitted:



Robert M. Stevens
Budget Manager

Approved:



Thomas Mielke, CHAIR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 14, 2014

SR 10-14

DISTRIBUTION

Board of Clark County Commissioners
Mark McCauley, County Administrator
Garry Lucas, Sheriff
Ric Bishop, Chief Deputy Sheriff – Jail
Darin Rouhier, Finance Manager – CCSO
Francine Reis, HR Director

FISCAL IMPACT ATTACHMENT

Part I: Narrative Explanation

I. A – Explanation of what the request does that has fiscal impact and the assumptions for developing revenue and costing information

Part II: Estimated Revenues – This request uses on-going Mental Health Sales Tax revenue.

Fund #/Title	Current Biennium		Next Biennium		Second Biennium	
	GF	Total	GF	Total	GF	Total
1033- Mental Health Sales Tax Fund		\$148,500		\$148,500		\$148,500
Total		\$148,500		\$148,500		\$148,500

II. A – Describe the type of revenue (grant, fees, etc.)

Part III: Estimated Expenditures

III. A – Expenditures summed up

Fund #/Title	FTE	Current Biennium		Next Biennium		Second Biennium	
		GF	Total	GF	Total	GF	Total
Mental Health Sales Tax Fund	2.0		\$148,500		\$148,500		\$148,500
Total			\$148,500		\$148,500		\$148,500

III. B – Expenditure by object category

Fund #/Title	Current Biennium		Next Biennium		Second Biennium	
	GF	Total	GF	Total	GF	Total
Salary/Benefits		\$148,500		\$148,500		\$148,500
Contractual						
Supplies						
Travel						
Other controllables						
Capital Outlays						
Inter-fund Transfers						
Debt Service						
Total		\$148,500		\$148,500		\$148,500