THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Behavioral Health and Recovery Services **BOARD AGENDA #** *B-2

Urgent ☐ **Routine** ☒ **AGENDA DATE** October 28, 2014

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES ☒ **NO** ☐ **4/5 Vote Required YES** ☐ **NO** ☒
(Information Attached)

SUBJECT:

Approval to Participate in a Multi-County Collaboration on the Development of a 16 Bed Crisis Residential Facility to be located in Merced County

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Approve Stanislaus County's participation in a multi-county collaboration to develop a 16 bed Crisis Residential Facility to be located in Merced County.

2. Authorize the Behavioral Health Director to submit a letter to California Health Facility Financing Agency (CHHFA) affirming Stanislaus County's participation in this project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Funding for this project will be provided through a successful application for Senate Bill (SB) 82 Investment in Mental Health Wellness Act of 2013 grant funding that has been designated for crisis residential beds. Merced County is the lead agency for the application, in collaboration with Calaveras, Mariposa, Madera, and Tuolumne counties. If participation by Stanislaus County in this collaborative effort is approved, the applicants would be able to increase their grant request by $1,000,000.

Continued on Page 2

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2014-535

On motion of Supervisor Withrow, **Seconded by Supervisor** Monteith
and approved by the following vote,
Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Withrow, Monteith, and Chairman De Martini
Noes: Supervisors: None
Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None
Abstaining: Supervisor: None
1) X **Approved as recommended**
2) ____ **Denied**
3) ____ **Approved as amended**
4) ____ **Other:**
MOTION:

Christine Ferraro Tallman

ATTEST: **CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk** **File No.**

FISCAL IMPACT: (Continued)

The additional funds would be used to expand the Crisis Residential Facility project, increasing the number of beds from 12 to a total of 16. The four additional beds would be available for Stanislaus County's use. Stanislaus County would pay for only the beds that are occupied by Stanislaus County residents, either the Medi-Cal match, if any, or the full rate if an individual is uninsured. There is no cost to Stanislaus County to participate in the development of the Crisis Residential Facility. Future costs to the County would include the use of available beds as well as transportation costs and would be funded from Behavioral Health and Recovery Services departmental revenue and/or department fund balance.

DISCUSSION:

The Investment in Mental Health Wellness Act of 2013 (SB82) established a competitive grant program to disburse funds to California counties or to their nonprofit or public agency designates for the purpose of developing mental health crisis support programs. Specifically, the funds are meant to "increase capacity for client assistance and services in crisis intervention, crisis stabilization, crisis residential treatment, rehabilitative mental health services, and mobile crisis support teams." The grants, from the California Health Facilities Financing Authority (CHFFA), support capital improvement, expansion and limited start-up costs. A total of $142.5 million in SB 82 capital funding was available at the program's inception and was allocated for award by region and by program type. At this time approximately $71 million in capital funding remains and of that, $19.9 million is designated as available to the Central Region (which includes Stanislaus County) for crisis residential programs only.

Crisis residential programs are an option to avoid psychiatric hospitalization or to allow earlier discharge from a psychiatric facility. In the past, Stanislaus County did have a six (6) bed crisis residential facility located in Modesto. At that time, it was difficult to keep the facility fully occupied. Individuals can only be admitted to crisis residential services if they have been clean and sober for three days. This was an issue with many of the individuals being considered for hospitalization and still continues to be an issue. Another problem in the past was the reluctance of physicians to discharge individuals from the psychiatric inpatient hospital early, which made a crisis residential option unnecessary. Most individuals were able to return to their living situation in place before hospitalization. Consequently, staff evaluated this funding opportunity for a crisis residential facility owned by and located in Stanislaus County and determined it would be costly to operate and difficult to keep fully occupied, which would be necessary to minimize costs.

However, having a crisis residential option for our clients would be a desirable component of the County's Strategic Plan for 24/7 Secure Mental Health Services aftercare continuum. Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) now has options to allow individuals to attain sobriety before admission to a crisis residential facility. As part of the implementation of the Strategic Plan, there are discharge teams

that can advocate for earlier release from a psychiatric facility, and inpatient lengths of stay are much shorter than they were prior to the implementation of the Strategic Plan. In these situations, crisis residential services would be very helpful.

The location of the Crisis Residential facility will be in Merced County. As part of the collaboration, Stanislaus County would receive a car to transport clients to the facility, and would also be provided with telecommunication equipment so daily face-to-face contact would be possible with the County's clients. Significant others of the client would also be able to connect with them using this technology.

Stanislaus County's participation in this collaboration will allow the counties currently in the collaboration to access additional funding for a larger facility. As planned for the current participants, the Merced facility will include 12 beds. If Stanislaus County is authorized to join the collaboration, it will be a 16 bed facility with the four (4) additional beds for use by Stanislaus County clients as needed. Merced County has identified a potential operator of the Crisis Residential facility that is willing to accept the Medi-Cal rate for crisis residential services. Stanislaus County will only pay for the beds that are occupied by County residents, either the Medi-Cal match, if any, or the full rate if an individual is not insured. There is no obligation to use the beds or pay for them when not in use. Having a facility available to the County when necessary without having the expense of operating it at less than capacity is a substantial benefit to the County, allowing additional flexibility in finding intensive treatment alternatives for County clients.

POLICY ISSUES:

Crisis residential treatment programs are not a mandated County function. The availability of a crisis residential treatment program supports the Board of Supervisors' priorities of A Healthy Community and Efficient Delivery of Public Services by providing continued and improved access for constituents to appropriate behavioral health services.

STAFFING IMPACT:

There are no staffing impacts associated with this item.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Madelyn Schlaepfer, Behavioral Health Director Telephone: 525-6205