

2020 RES-171

ACCEPTING COVID-19 EMERGENCY GRANTS TO ADDRESS MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS DCDHS – HAA DIVISION, PEI DIVISION

The Dane County Department of Human Services (DCDHS) Housing Access & Affordability (HAA) and Prevention & Early Intervention (PEI) Divisions have been awarded emergency funding from the US Department of Human Services to address mental health and substance use disorders during the COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of this grant is to provide crisis intervention services, mental health and substance use disorder treatment, and other related recovery supports for children and adults impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is intended to address the needs of individuals with serious mental illness, individuals with substance use disorders, and/or individuals with co-occurring serious mental health and substance use disorders. Emergency COVID-19 grants are authorized under section 501(o) of the Public Health Service Act.

The funding will support recent efforts to provide behavioral health services to individuals experiencing homelessness at higher risk of contracting COVID-19 who are temporarily sheltering in hotels, and youth in foster care, through services under contract with the DCDHS.

Individuals experiencing homelessness and sheltering in hotels will receive services through Focus Counseling that include case management, assistance accessing basic needs, connections to behavioral health supports (long-term case management and/or substance use treatment programs), psychoeducational programming, connections to housing support, benefits assistance, and crisis stabilization as needed.

Foster parents who are in need of additional support to meet the behavioral health needs of the children in their care will be provided access to Behavioral Health Clinical Consultation through Quest Clinical Consulting. Although many Dane County foster youth have been able to access treatment via telehealth, less traditional behavioral health interventions such as Individual Skill Development and Movement Therapy which have helped children and youth in foster care manage anxiety and depression have not translated as well to a telehealth environment . Additionally COVID-19 has also interrupted many of the face to face visits for children and youth in foster care. Foster families who are parenting the most emotionally fragile among the Dane County Foster Care Population will be offered Clinical Consultation so they can help support the children and youth who are struggling the most with the abrupt changes in service delivery and family contact and ready them for the changes in service access as Dane County begins phasing in new service delivery models.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following new revenue and expenditure accounts be added to the HAA and PEI sections in DCDHS; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following revenue accounts be adjusted and that the revenue increase be credited to the County General Fund and transferred from the General Fund to the following expenditure accounts in the Department of Human Services:

Table with 3 columns: Revenue/Expenditure Account Number, Account Title, and Amount. It lists COVID 19 Revenue and COVID BH SUPPORT accounts for both Revenue and Expenditures, with a total of \$179,311 for each category.