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2019 RES-263

**AUTHORIZING RECLASSIFICATION OF MENTAL HEALTH MANAGER TO BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH PROGRAM SPECIALIST DCDHS – ACS DIVISION**

The Department of Human Services – Adult Community Services (ACS) Division has a Mental Health Manager position #1367, for which we request a reclassification to a Behavioral Health Program Specialist. This position will be supervised by the Behavioral Health Program Manager. This position is currently vacant. The Department of Administration – Employee Relations has recommended approval of this request.

The Department of Human Services is experiencing a growth in the funding, number of contracts, and complexity of programs in the behavioral health area over the last few years. These programs work with populations that are attempting to recover from both a mental illness and a substance use disorder. There is an increased demand for programs that specifically treat individuals with opioid use disorder, an increased need for more alternative sanction programs, and the increased scrutiny of the population that requires inpatient psychiatric care. There is a clear connection between mental illnesses and substance use disorders. The National Institute on Drug Abuse reports multiple national population surveys show that about half of those who experience a mental illness during their lives will also experience a substance use disorder and vice versa. Other studies show that approximately 25% of those diagnosed with a serious mental illness also have a substance use disorder. The department previously had a Mental Health Manager and a separate Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Manager overseeing this work. The department now has a single Behavioral Health unit to manage this work and to keep this system responsive to the needs of those we serve. This reclassified position will complete the team of four Behavioral Health Program Specialists, as the other three positions are currently filled.

The reclassified position will be responsible for supervising staff, managing purchase of service contracts for behavioral health programs, coordinating and conducting utilization review activities, managing a coordinated system of care for those with behavioral health needs, and educating the community about the activities of the behavioral health system.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors does hereby support and authorize reclassification of the Mental Health Manager (M12) position (Position No. 1367) in the Human Services Department (org code 6040) to a Behavioral Health Program Specialist (M10) position (org code 6046), commensurate with the Department's request and approval of the Department of Administration – Employee Relations Division.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that Position No. 1367, which has been vacant for more than six months, is authorized to be filled pursuant to Dane County Ordinance 29.52(15), which requires the Personnel and Finance Committee and the County Executive to approve filling positions that are vacant for longer than six months.