

**GRANT REQUEST PONY**

**Oregon Health Authority**  
**Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment Grant**

(Reported out of Subcommittee on 4/10/13)

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The Human Services Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Committee on Ways and Means approve the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in the amount of up to \$2 million in any given year for a maximum of \$8 million over five years, to expand services for screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment (SBIRT) services for substance misuse and substance use disorders.

SBIRT is an evidence-based approach to identify patients who use alcohol and other drugs at risky levels. Through a set of questions between the provider and the patient, this process provides the information necessary to determine the appropriate level of intervention or treatment. The agency will create partnerships with primary care clinics for the underserved to implement regular screenings across all of the clinic's population. OHSU's Department of Family Medicine currently uses SBIRT, and will provide training modules for all clinic personnel.

The agency will need one new limited duration position to provide state oversight, coordination, and to assist in the spread of the concept to other delivery system reform efforts. The grant application is due on April 29, 2013. If approved, funding would begin September 2013 and end September 2018. No state matching funds are required for the grant.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends approval of the request.

# Federal Grant Application Request

## Oregon Health Authority

### Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) Grant

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**Analyst:** Linda Ames

**Request:** Approve the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in the amount of up to \$2 million in any given year for a maximum of \$8 million over five years, to expand services for screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment services for substance misuse and substance use disorders.

**Recommendation:** Approve the request.

**Analysis:** The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is requesting approval from the Joint Committee on Ways and Means to apply for the Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Grant funding can be up to \$2 million in any given year for a maximum of \$8 million over five years. No state matching funds are required for the grant, nor is there a requirement for maintenance of effort.

SBIRT is an evidence-based approach to identify patients who use alcohol and other drugs at risky levels. It is unique in that it screens for all types of substance use, not just dependencies. Through a set of questions between the provider and the patient, this process provides the information necessary to determine the appropriate level of intervention or treatment.

OHA will create partnerships with primary care clinics for the underserved, including county clinics, federally qualified health centers, and rural health centers, to implement regular screening across all of the clinic's population. OHSU's Department of Family Medicine currently uses SBIRT in its residency training, and will create training modules for all clinic personnel. AMH will partner with the Office of Policy and Health Research, since this grant aligns with goals to support patient-centered primary care home efforts. The grant will also support work with some of Oregon's behavioral health experts to improve partnerships and coordination between primary care systems and specialty substance use disorder and mental health care systems.

The use of SBIRT is included as one of the 17 incentive measures for CCOs. Utilization rates of SBIRT are currently low, and this grant is intended to provide the training and technical support to increase the use of this successful model.

The agency expects to need one new limited duration position to provide state oversight, coordination with other OHA divisions and community partners, and to assist the spread of the concept to other delivery system reform efforts. The grant application is due on April 29, 2013. If approved, funding would begin September 2013 and end September 2018. If necessary, additional expenditure limitation and position authority could be included in the OHA 2013-15 budget, or be added later in the biennium.

The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request.