

Analysis

Oregon Health Authority

Integration of Primary and Behavioral Health Care Grant

Analyst: Linda Ames

Request: Approve the submission of a federal grant application to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration in the amount of \$2 million per year for five years to promote the integration of primary and behavioral health care.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Analysis: The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is requesting approval to apply for the Promoting Integration of Primary and Behavioral Health Care grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The grant is anticipated to be \$2 million per year for five years, and is expected to be awarded on July 1, 2017.

The purpose of the grant is to promote full integration and collaboration in clinical practice between primary and behavioral health care. The agency has determined that those behavioral health organizations participating in the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) demonstration project are best positioned to participate in this new funding opportunity. Oregon received a planning grant for developing the CCBHCs in 2015, and was selected as one of eight states to participate in the demonstration. OHA recently launched the implementation. Currently 12 organizations are certified to participate, and receive enhanced federal matching rates. In addition to federal standards for these clinics, Oregon requires that they integrate at least 20 hours per week of on-site primary care. This new funding opportunity would be a timely resource to help implement this primary care requirement and continue the integration work of the CCBHCs after that demonstration project ends in two years.

If the grant is awarded, the CCBHCs would be able to use the funds to support the integration of primary care services through infrastructure development and direct services. Some examples include physical health screenings, wrap-around services, establishing electronic health record exchanges, purchasing instruments necessary for screenings, and expanding clinic workforce such as adding a primary care provider.

The grant application is due May 17, 2017 and it is anticipated that eleven awards will be made nationally. No state matching funds are required, and there is no federal requirement for maintenance of effort. No additional staff are needed, and if additional federal funds expenditure limitation is needed, it can be added at a future budget rebalance.

The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request to apply for a grant from SAMSHA for \$2 million per year for five years to promote the integration of primary and behavioral health care.