



**Program #60505B - Behavioral Health Deputy** FY 2024 Department Requested

**Department:** Sheriff **Program Contact:** Lance Hemsworth  
**Program Offer Type:** New **Program Offer Stage:** Department Requested  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:** Out of Target

**Executive Summary**

The Behavioral Health Connections (BHC) team is a specialized team consisting of one Law Enforcement Deputy who will partner with a grant funded mental health professional. This team will providing consistent proactive outreach and utilize a co-responder model response to active law enforcement calls for service where community members are experiencing a behavioral health crisis.

**Program Description**

The BHC team will work closely with the HOPE team which is already an engaged and collaborative partner for all, recognizing the value each partner brings to the community. Thriving partnerships with agencies such as MHA AO, JOIN, Cascadia Behavioral Health, Multnomah County Behavior Health, Central City Concern, METRO, the Multnomah County Joint Office of Homeless Services, and many others, allows the team to provide access to wrap around services.

The BHC team will leverage these partnerships to provide a proactive response to community members in need of enhanced services. Using a co-responder model the BHC team will respond to public safety calls for service where a community member is experiencing a behavioral health crisis. The BHC team will follow up with individuals, family members, and caregivers after a crisis to facilitate ongoing care and reduce the likelihood of further crisis situations and limit criminal justice involvement. Through specific training and collaboration, the BHC team will be better prepared to de-escalate intense or emotional crisis situations without the use of force and connect community members experiencing a mental health crisis with an increased level of professional care.

It is widely accepted that people with mental illness are overrepresented in the criminal justice system. The most recent data available from the June 2017 US Bureau of Justice Statistics (NCJ250612) shows that more than one quarter of people in jail met the threshold for serious psychological distress and nearly half had been told that they have a mental illness by a mental health professional. Even though we know that people of color are overrepresented in criminal justice system, there is evidence that they are less likely to be identified as having a mental health problem. There is substantial evidence of racial and ethnic disparities in community health care, racial and ethnic minorities have less access to mental health services than white people, are less likely to receive care and are more likely to receive poor-quality care when treated (Pope, Leah & NAMI, 2019).

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY22 Actual	FY23 Budgeted	FY23 Estimate	FY24 Offer
Output	Number of Community Members Experiencing Mental Health Concerns Contacted	N/A	N/A	N/A	300
Outcome	Number of Referrals Made to Services	N/A	N/A	N/A	100
Output	Response to Calls for Service with a Behavioral Health Crisis	N/A	N/A	N/A	100

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

**Revenue/Expense Detail**

	<b>Adopted General Fund</b>	<b>Adopted Other Funds</b>	<b>Department Requested General Fund</b>	<b>Department Requested Other Funds</b>
<b>Program Expenses</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2024</b>
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$186,893	\$0
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$186,893</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$186,893</b>	
<b>Program FTE</b>	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00

<b>Program Revenues</b>				
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Explanation of Revenues**

**Significant Program Changes**

Last Year this program was: