

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE September 16, 2016

TO Housing Committee Members: Scott Griggs, Chair, Carolyn King Arnold, Vice-Chair, Mayor Pro-Tem Monica R. Alonzo, Tiffinni A. Young, Mark Clayton, and Casey Thomas, II

SUBJECT Dallas County's Role in Behavioral Health and Supportive Services

On Monday, September 19, 2016, you will be briefed on Dallas County's Role in Behavioral Health and Supportive Services. A copy of the briefing is attached.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alan E. Sims'.

Alan E. Sims  
Chief of Neighborhood Plus

c: The Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
A. C. Gonzalez, City Manager  
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary  
Christopher D. Bowers, Interim City Attorney  
Craig Kinton, City Auditor  
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge  
Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager  
Eric D. Campbell, Assistant City Manager  
Jill A. Jordan, P. E., Assistant City Manager  
Mark McDaniel, Assistant City Manager  
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer  
Sana Syed, Public Information Officer  
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor and Council

# Dallas County's Role in Behavioral Health and Supportive Services

Briefing to Dallas City Council  
Housing Committee

9-19-2016

# Overview

- Dallas County Funding for Behavioral Health and Supportive Services
- 1115 Medicaid Waiver
- NorthSTAR Transition 1/1/2017
- Caruth Smart Justice

# Dallas County Funding

**FY 2016**

**\$3.5M** in County funds leveraged **\$5.5M** in behavioral health and supportive services

- \$1M to City of Dallas for The Bridge
- \$2.5M in match funds for the 1115 Waiver brought in \$2.1M in federal funds for total of \$4.5M in services

# Dallas County Funding

**FY 2017**

(Pending Budget Approval on 9/20/2016)

**\$6.5M** in County funds will be leveraged for **\$8.5M** in services

- \$1M to the City of Dallas for The Bridge
- \$3M in new match for the NorthSTAR system
- \$2.5M in match funds for the 1115 Waiver will bring in \$2.1M in federal funds for total of \$4.5M in services

# 1115 Medicaid Waiver

- Provides access to Medicaid funds outside the traditional Medicaid programs
- Funding to hospitals for Uncompensated Care
- Delivery System Reform Improvement Payments (DSRIP) designed to transform how services are delivered to improve outcomes and reduce costs
- Participation requires local match funds called Intergovernmental Transfers (IGT)
- Currently in Year 6, which is a 15 month transition period
- Waiver renewal pending and uncertain at this time

# 1115 Medicaid Waiver

## **Dallas County Behavioral Health Waiver Program**

- Targets persons in the criminal justice system with behavioral health needs
- Matches all bookings against NorthSTAR database to identify service history
- Conducts clinical assessments and develop treatment and release plans
- Provides intensive community based services

# 1115 Medicaid Waiver

## **FY 2016 Funding of Direct Services**

- \$2M to providers for intensive wrap around for persons released from jail or state hospitals
- \$535,000 for a forensic assertive community treatment (ACT) team
- \$225,000 for transitional housing beds
- \$216,000 to extend substance abuse treatment for persons in specialty courts



# 1115 Medicaid Waiver

## **FY 2017 Funding of Direct Services**

- \$2M to providers for intensive wrap around for persons released from jail or state hospitals
- \$535,000 for a forensic assertive community treatment (ACT) team
- \$459,000 for services at The Cottages
- \$225,000 for transitional housing beds
- \$216,000 to extend substance abuse treatment for persons in specialty courts
- \$150,000 for a serial inebriate program
- \$70,000 for a housing navigator dedicated to jail

# 1115 Medicaid Waiver

## Outputs

- 588 average unique consumers assessed monthly
- 153 average unique consumers received intensive wraparound services monthly
- 49 consumers released directly from state hospitals with legal case dismissed
- 17 consumers per month provided transitional housing
- 26 consumers per month received extended substance abuse services

# 1115 Medicaid Waiver

## Outcomes

- 6.8% reduction in crisis costs for consumers served by the Waiver (benchmark = 3%)
- 76% of state hospital releases had an outpatient appointment with a psychiatrist or other prescriber within 7 days of release (benchmark = 32%)
- 83% of state hospital releases had an outpatient appointment with a prescriber within 30 days of release (benchmark = 83%)
- 26.94% of persons served returned to jail within 6 months (benchmark = 28.9%)

# NTBHA/NorthSTAR

## History and Current Status

- NorthSTAR is the managed care system for delivering behavioral health services for the 7 county region: Dallas, Ellis, Collin, Kaufman, Navarro, Hunt, and Rockwall
- Blends state general revenue, Medicaid and federal block grants into a single delivery system managed by a managed care organization (MCO)
- Provides mental health and substance abuse services to Medicaid recipients and indigent consumers (less than 200% of federal poverty level)
- Value Options has been the MCO and contracts with a wide network of providers.
- \$145M annually spent on services
- North Texas Behavioral Health Authority (NTBHA) has primarily been in a consumer advocacy and oversight role throughout NorthSTAR program with board members appointed by County Commissioners Court of partner counties

# NTBHA/NorthSTAR

## Sunset Requirements from 2015 Legislature

- End current NorthSTAR by 1/1/2017
- Medicaid services move to existing MCO's
- Indigent services stay with NTBHA
- Collin County opted to leave NTBHA and form their own authority
- NTBHA becomes full authority for indigent funding and moves from oversight role to directly managing a network of providers
- NTBHA remains responsible for collecting and reporting Medicaid services data

# NTBHA/NorthSTAR

## **NTBHA after 1/1/2017**

- Transition activities moving rapidly
- Key leadership staff in place and full team will be hired and working by 1/1/2017
- Multiple procurements either completed or in process to develop provider network
- Remaining six counties developing strong working relationship with all counties contributing matching funds based upon population
- Key focus is to have all current consumers and providers connected so there is no disruption of services

# NTBHA/NorthSTAR

## Funding for the “new” NTBHA

- \$53M annually going forward from State
- Partner counties will provide local match of \$3.4M
- Service targets of 23,287 adults and 5,897 adolescents and children annually
- FY 2017 includes \$5.5M in one time “bridge” funds to account for loss of Medicaid funding, which supported indigent services
- Primary legislative priority is to add the annualized amount of bridge funding to baseline going forward

# **NTBHA/NorthSTAR**

## **Services in NorthSTAR**

- Crisis hotline and mobile crisis
- Inpatient, 23 hours observation, substance abuse treatment and crisis residential
- Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) teams
- Medication
- Outpatient substance abuse and mental health services
- Peer recovery support



# CARUTH SMART JUSTICE

## Overview of process

- Goal is to increase the identification, assessment and diversion from the criminal justice system of persons who need behavioral health services
- Benefits include freeing up law enforcement to focus on public safety and reducing the high level of recidivism for persons with behavioral health needs
- Grew from national Stepping Up initiative
- WW Caruth Foundation at the Communities Foundation of Texas provided \$1M planning grant
- Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute is the lead with Dallas County, Parkland and the Council of State Governments Justice Center as key partners
- An implementation grant request is pending before Caruth with presentation to their board on 9/27/2016

# CARUTH SMART JUSTICE

## Results of Planning Process

- Detailed mapping of intake screening processes at jail that identified 26 “red flags” for system improvement
- Identified need to focus on “super-utilizers” of services
- Identified gaps in community services
- Identified need to change how we ask law enforcement to react to persons with behavioral health needs
- Collaboration with Council of State Governments to produce a three year detailed comparison of recidivism rates among the large urban counties in Texas

# CARUTH SMART JUSTICE

## Implementation Plans

- Targeted to begin implementation 1/1/2017 to match NorthSTAR transition
- \$3M in funding will build improved front-end diversion in collaboration with Dallas Police and Dallas Fire and Rescue
- \$850K to increase pre-trial supervision capacity
- \$1M to increase capacity to address super-utilizers by adding more ACT teams and changing their model to align with best practices
- \$700K to increase permanent supportive housing capacity for super-utilizers

# CARUTH SMART JUSTICE

## **Accountability and Evaluation**

- Developing robust data collection and evaluation process
- Seeking additional foundation funding for comparing outcomes of new services to current service packages using random assignment process