

Codington County Welfare

To: Potential Proposers
From: Sarah Petersen, Director
CC: Commissioner Myron Johnson
Date: January 24, 2017
Re: Further information regarding Behavioral Health Deflection Program (BHDP) RFP.

ATTACHED: Behavioral Health Program Description for reference

CORRECTION: The phone number for the Codington County Welfare Office is **605-882-6286**.

1. The Program was created as part of Codington County's Stepping Up Initiative (SUI) activities. The SUI is a nation-wide effort aimed at reducing the number of persons with mental illness in jail. Codington County began its SUI activities in 2015, and has now reached the point of creating programming to meet the gaps that have been identified as a result of those activities.
2. The BHDP is intended to be an outreach service for persons whose cases currently fall into an identified gap in services in Codington County. At this time, there is no identified funding available to serve persons with behavioral issues who have had initial interactions with law enforcement, but have not been arrested, confined or committed.
3. The BHDP is not intended to replicate any existing service, nor is it intended to compete with existing service providers. It is intended to help persons who fall into the above-discussed gap, so that they can be connected to exiting community-based services and resources.
4. THE BHDP is not intended to be a follow-up service for persons involved in crisis-level contacts with law enforcement. It is intended to provide follow-up for persons whose needs for services are at a lower intensity (i.e. non-crisis) – those persons are currently not connected to existing services.
5. The target population for the BHDP is persons who self-select to participate.
6. The BHDP will assess needs, prioritize those needs, and provide assistance to participants so that they become connected to appropriate services in the community.
7. The success of the BHDP will be measured in part by its ability to address behavioral health needs of the participants at a lower level, before those needs escalate to crisis-level. In doing so, the Program is anticipated to prevent or reduce crisis-level situations among the target population.
8. The intent of the RFP is that there will be one staff person, not multiple persons.
9. The proposer will be required to demonstrate its awareness of community resources.