

**DEKALB COUNTY**

ITEM NO.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**BUSINESS AGENDA / MINUTES**  
**MEETING DATE: June, 9, 2020**

HEARING TYPE  
Preliminary

ACTION TYPE  
Resolution

SUBJECT: Motion to add an item

DEPARTMENT: Board of Commissioners

PUBLIC HEARING: NO

ATTACHMENT: YES No  
  
PAGES: 1

INFORMATION CONTACT: Commissioner Kathie Gannon  
  
PHONE NUMBER: 404-371-4909

PURPOSE:

To add an item to the agenda

NEED/IMPACT:

To allow the Commissioners to act on this item.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

To approve adding an item to the agenda.



# DeKalb County Government

Manuel J. Maloof Center  
1300 Commerce Drive  
Decatur, Georgia 30030

## Agenda Item

File ID: FileID

Walk-On Item

6/9/2020

Public Hearing: YES  NO

Department: Board of Commissioner - District 6

### SUBJECT:

Commission District(s): All

Allocate \$2,703,083 in CARES Act funding for Immediate Needs County-wide in Priority 1 mental health services as described in DeKalb Community Service Board COVID-19 Response Proposal

Information Contact: Commissioner Gannon

Phone Number: 404 313 1777

### PURPOSE:

The DeKalb CSB has developed a COVID-19 Response plan that will Expand access to mental health services, strengthen the current mental health system, and ensure compliance with CDC and the Governor's social distancing requirements. This plan combines expanded telehealth and mobile crisis services to ensure access to vital mental health services for thousands of vulnerable individuals in DeKalb County. The Plan proposes funding in two phases. This allocation is for Priority 1 Immediate Needs County-wide. A subsequent allocation could be requested for Priority 2 and 3 for program expansion, residential services and infrastructure.

### NEED/IMPACT:

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in significant negative impacts to health and wellness due to multiple prolonged stressors that often lead to increased symptoms of anxiety and depression. Research during prior global crises indicate that communities see significant increases of alcohol and drug use as well as suicides. Knowing variables such as unemployment rates and prior reported deaths due to mental health and substance abuse, the CSB estimates DeKalb will see a 28% increase in Opioid drug related deaths, 24% increase in other drug related overdose deaths, and 11.68% increase in suicides.

### FISCAL IMPACT:

\$2,703,083 from CARES grant for Immediate Needs County-wide in Priority 1 mental health services as described in DeKalb Community Service Board COVID-19 Response Proposal the Community Services Board

### RECOMMENDATION:

To approve the resolution based on the attached budget and authorize the chief executive officer to execute all necessary documents.....

**Mental Health CARES Funding Summary**  
**Priority 1- Immediate Needs County Wide (\$2,703,083)**  
**Priority 2&3- Program Expansion, Residential Services, and Infrastructure (\$2,439,000)**

Priority	Program	Description	Budgetary Outline	
1	Personal Protective Equipment & Decontamination	PPE for all employees and clients and enhanced cleaning protocols for residential programs and clinical locations through Dec. 31, 2020	One time funding	250,000
1	Telehealth Outpatient Services	Provide access to Licensed Clinical Staff, Psychiatrists, and case managers through video telehealth or by phone. Clinical services include: Assessments, Treatment Plan Development, Psychiatric Physician Service, Individual Therapy, Group Therapy, Case Management, Supported Employment		
	Hardware	25 Mobile Telehealth Stations, 60 Telehealth Enabled devices for Clinical Staff, 60 Cellular phones and subscription plans, Broadband access and MiFi devices.	One time funding	351,935
	Electronic Health Record	Netsmart MyAVATAR Electronic Health Record: Cloud based system, Telehealth, CareConnect, Health Information Exchange Integration. Covers Implementation and operating expenses; Outside Agency Referral system	One time funding	700,000
	Pharmacy	Funding for individuals without insurance and do not qualify for existing pharmaceutical assistant programs.	One time funding	50,000
	Clinical Staffing	Case Managers, Licensed Clinical Staff, Nursing, and Psychiatrist	Covers 1 year of Staffing	553,148
1	Mobile Crisis Expansion	Program supports DeKalb County Police with a trained psychiatric nurse. This individual rides with a DeKalb County Police officer and responds to incidents that may be a mental health crisis. The psychiatric nurse can provide consultation and assessment services and potentially divert incarceration for individuals suffering from mental health disorders which secures them the mental health treatment that they need. The Mobile Crisis receive referrals from County Police dispatch and the DeKalb CSB. Proposed increase of two new psychiatric nurses to expand service availability to the community	Covers 1 year of Service Delivery	259,600
1	Mobile Telehealth Mental Health Clinic	Provide mobile clinic vans that go out into the community and provide services to clients. Mobile vans can also setup with at other community events such as testing sites, and farmer's markets. Mobile clinics are staffed with a case manager and provide access to DeKalb CSB's Clinical Telehealth service network.	Covers 1 year of Service Delivery	354,000
1	DeKalb CSB Central Access Line	Additional position for COVID-19 calls and coordination. In the past 5 months of 2020 the Central Access Line received 3686 calls (737 per month). Individuals who call the line receive a brief assessment and are then referred to the appropriate DeKalb CSB treatment program or connected with outside resources. In crisis situations, the Central Access Line staff will mobilize the Mobile Crisis Unit in support of individuals in the community.	Covers 1 year of Service Delivery	64,400
1	Therapeutic Virtual Summer Camp	Using the Merrell's Strong Kids Social and Emotional Learning curriculum for the virtual group, this program is designed to have maximum impact on cognitive, emotional, and social functioning and includes lessons on understanding feelings, dealing with anger, logical thinking, resolving conflict and stress, and creating smart goals. This is an evidence-based program with successful outcomes. The virtual summer camp will be offered to students attending 12 schools under the DeKalb CSB APEX program and will be structured to provided 2 groups of 6 students per each school for a total of 144 students. Groups will be one hour twice a week for 6 weeks. Computer devices will be distributed to students who do not have access.	Covers 1 year of Service Delivery; Added expense for additional County Summer camps	30,000
1	Hazard Pay	Pay reimbursement for employees working in high risk residential programs: DeKalb Regional Crisis Center, Opioid Residential Program; Intellectual Disabilities Residential Homes	One time funding	90,000
2	Emergent Adult Outreach Program	Funding supports 2 staff who act as outreach coordinators to provide the following: Coordinate with other youth organizations by providing educational resources, Mental Health First Aid training, and referrals to the DeKalb CSB Telehealth network. Budget includes staffing, equipment, and Mental Health First Aid training materials.	Covers 1 year of Service Delivery	200,000
3	Structural Upgrades	Upgrades to County facilities to ensure social distancing requirements at 7 active clinic programs: North, Kirkwood, Clifton, Richardson, DeKalb Regional Crisis Center, DAC, FOX	One time funding	1,000,000
3	Opioid Residential Program	Residential program that can provide short to long term Opioid treatment. With the increase in substance abuse cases and closure of several residential programs, this program can serve a critical need to the community. Clients are referred directly from the DeKalb Regional Crisis center after detox and stabilization and are typically homeless. Provide funding for 20 beds for 1 year.	Covers 1 year of Service Delivery	1,062,000
3	Mental Health Independent Residential services	Provide housing to individuals who are homeless been discharged from the DeKalb Regional crisis center. Clients will receive continued outpatient services and community based case management.	Covers 1 year of Service Delivery; Individuals will be transitions to permanent housing options	177,000
<b>Total</b>				<b>5,142,083</b>