

HENNEPIN COUNTY CHILDREN' S MENTAL HEALTH COLLABORATIVE - LOCAL COLLABORATIVE TIME STUDY (LCTS) FUNDING UPDATE

2021 Proposed budget and update

Hennepin County-Department of Community Corrections and Rehabilitation

Submitted by:

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In fall 2017, Hennepin County received the endorsement of the Children’s Mental Health Collaborative, Executive and Governance Groups, to support authorizing the DOCCR LCTS funds to be allocated to provide trauma-based services for black male youth in the amount of \$375,000 with a projection of a 3-year pilot program. Through an extensive RFI (Request for Information) and RFP (Request for Proposal) selection process, three providers were chosen to implement trauma-based programs targeting the areas of prevention, early intervention, and intervention.

In May 2018 as DOCCR realized that implementation of these services would not get started until the final quarter of the year and since the plan was to continue these programs for at least 3 years, the Children’s Mental Health Collaborative gave approval for DOCCR to extend the contract funding through the end of 2019.

This report aims to seek budgetary approval as well as give updates on each of the programs to include budget amounts proposed for 2021, adjustments to programming, and evaluation summaries completed through the Wilder foundation which has been disseminated to the collaborative prior to this update.

In addition to the trauma-based programs, DOCCR would like to continue utilizing Wilder Research to assist in the evaluation of these three pilot programs for trauma-based services in the amount of \$27,000 for the year 2020-2021.

Agency	Service provided	Contract Start date	Contract End date	2019 LCTS funding	2020 LCTS funding	Amount requested for 2021
Rebound-Prevention	Trauma based services for black male youth in N. Mpls area	9/1/2018	12/31/2019	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000
Phyllis Wheatley-early intervention	Trauma based early intervention services for black male youth in N. Mpls area	9/1/2018	12/31/2019	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000
Northpoint-Intervention	Trauma based services for black male youth in N. Mpls area	9/1/2018	12/31/2019	\$125,000	\$245,310.52	\$245,310.52
Wilder Research	Evaluation of trauma-based programs for black male youth in N. Mpls area	9/1/2018	12/31/2019	\$25,000	\$22,000	\$32,000
ISD #287	ALC + Care Coordinator (0.5 FTE)	7/1/2019	6/30/2019	\$36,000	0	0
Totals				\$436,000	\$517,310.52	\$527,310.52

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS AND ADJUSTMENTS TO INITIAL PROPOSAL

Prevention: Ujima Resilience Program- Rebound Inc.

Rebound provides a multi week, multifamily skill building group to 8-11-year-old black male youth and families, with aftercare case management. The goal of this program is to prevent youth from having behaviors escalate to the point of juvenile justice system involvement. Rebound will administer the evidenced based *Strengthening Family Coping Resources (SFCR)* curriculum to provide psychoeducation and skill development to families in the program. The *Strengthening Family Coping Resources (SFCR)* curriculum is divided into three modules designed to “use family coping resources as mechanisms for change, strengthen family processes impacted by urban poverty and chronic trauma, and address trauma-specific treatment goals.” Modules include Rituals and Routines, Strengthening Family Coping, and Trauma Resolution and Consolidation. Three 15-week sessions of the group will be administered per year starting in January 2019. To increase participation and to include families who could benefit from the Ujima Program, the age range is expanded when deemed appropriate by Ujima staff and Hennepin County.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ujima offered programming virtually to Cohort 5, through Zoom and Google Hangouts. Ujima is a program that thrives on in person connection. Working through trauma virtually was a challenge, especially during the stressful and trying times in Minneapolis for the black community. Technical difficulties affected the fluidity of the group sessions as well as caused delays in programming. The team in place for the Ujima Program contributed to the success of programming. Staff increased their capacity to ensure families remained engaged, heard, welcomed and committed.

From January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, The Ujima Program has provided services for 21 families; including 22 adults and 52 youth. Of the 21 families who engaged in the program, 16 have successfully completed (76%).

Early Intervention: HOPE- Phyllis Wheatley Community Center

URBANE has been designed to provide trauma-based services to black males (and families), ages 12-17, who reside near north Minneapolis, and who are on diversion with the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office for a domestic assault or disorderly conduct. Youth will participate in one-to-one support and weekly group sessions. The primary curriculum will focus on all areas of risky behaviors that young black men encounter with an emphasis on domestic/dating/family and social violence. An emphasis is also placed on youth who are vulnerable in the community, lacking support for school, and home and community support. Self-management and mindfulness will be core elements of the programming with a strong emphasis on historical trauma and black emotional pain. Curriculum is evidence-based and built around the Seven Principles of Kwanzaa as a guiding philosophy. The program promotes resiliency and self-care, as well as mindfulness, skill building, creativity and stress management. These programs also focus on a rites of passage model. To increase referrals and utilization, we have expanded the geographical boundaries to include the entirety of Hennepin County beginning February 2020. We also have expanded eligibility criteria to include any youth on diversion with the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office for any diversion eligible offense.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, programming was provided to youth via weekly Zoom

groups. Connectivity and follow through from youth proved to be barriers. For the youth who did engage in the virtual programming, conversation focused around COVID, relationships with family members and much of the unrest around the death of George Floyd. Due to the changes and delays in Court processes because of Covid-19, the referrals to this program were significantly impacted and have recently begun to increase.

The HOPE Program has served 14 youth from January 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

Intervention: NIA Program- Northpoint Health and Wellness

The Nia Program has been designed to provide trauma-based intervention services to black males, ages 12-17 who reside in the near north Minneapolis community. The Nia Program is delivered as a 12-week, culturally responsive curriculum involving social and emotional skills and learning. The program model is to have eligible persons take part in a 12-week empowerment group curriculum in addition to individual case management. In addition to assisting in supporting eligible person's well-being, the Nia Program will also refer eligible persons as needed to additional community resources, with access to integrative health services, including sexual health, behavioral health, dental, medical, and chemical dependency services. Referrals to the NIA Program began in October 2018.

To meet the number of referrals made to the Nia Program, a second case manager was hired in December 2019. This resulted in an increased program capacity of 30, compared to 15 previously.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Nia provided group programming and individual services virtually. This included connecting with youth via text, emails, phone calls, FaceTime, and Zoom. Case managers supported youth and families with basic/essential needs by providing groceries, hygiene products, and gift cards. They also worked hard on connecting youth and families with resources that were available in their communities. Face to face Empowerment Groups will restart in September.

From January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, the Nia Program has provided services for 48 youth, and the case managers have connected the participants to 191 prosocial activities.

Proposed Evaluation Measures

Providers are responsible for collecting data and reporting to Wilder Foundation on an annual basis. The following outlines the data to be collected.

Provider will work with Wilder Research and Hennepin County to implement outcome measures which may include goals of measuring:

- Improved well-being;
- Improved coping skills, resiliency;
- Improved self-identity;
- Improved relationships (family and/or other);
- Improved behavior;
- Improved school attendance.

Provider will collaborate with Wilder Research and is responsible for:

1. Submitting an electronic, annual aggregate report due within 30 days following December 31 to include the following output data:
 - Number of youth referred to the program;
 - Number of referrals from each source:
 - Schools;
 - Churches;
 - Hennepin County Attorney's Office;
 - Juvenile Probation;
 - Health and Human Services (HHS);
 - Community agencies.
 - Number of youth involved w/ HHS;
 - Number of youth accepted into the program;
 - Number of youth with parent/caregiver participants in program;
 - Number of youth discharged during the reporting period as defined below:
 - Successful completion as defined by program– need definitions from providers;
 - Non-completion initiated by youth behavior;
 - Non-completion initiated by family;
 - Non-completion initiated by professional.
 - Demographic data of youth at time of intake (gender, age, race, ethnicity, zip code);
 - School district and grade level of youth at time of intake;
 - Number of youth served with a DSM-V diagnosis;
 - Number of youth served referred to other services including:
 - Mental health services and agencies where referrals are made;
 - Chemical health services;
 - Pro-social activities;
 - Healthcare services.
2. Participating in one focus group or interview annually with Wilder Research to be completed by December 31 of each year.

