

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

Jail Transition Services

Substitute Bill 5883, Section 204(1) (I)
2017-19 Operating Budget

December 1, 2017

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This legislative report meets the requirements of Senate Bill 5883 (2017-19 operating budget), section 204 (1) (L), which funds jail-based mental health services for mentally ill offenders confined in a county or city jail. The proviso provides for:

\$2,291,000 GF-S for fiscal year 2018 and \$2,291,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2019 are provided solely for mental health services for mentally ill offenders while confined in a county or city jail and for facilitating access to programs that offer mental health services upon release from confinement. The department must collect information from the behavioral health organizations on their plan for using these funds, the numbers of individuals served, and the types of services provided and submit a report to the office of financial management and the appropriate fiscal committees of the legislature by December 1st of each year of the biennium.

The proviso requires the Department of Social and Health Services (the Department) to collect information from Behavioral Health Organizations (BHOs) regarding access to jail-based services for individuals with mental health needs and the BHO plans to continue serving those individuals.

The BHOs, along with the Southwest Fully Integrated Managed Care (FIMC) Region, contract for jail-based services with their provider networks. This funding allows the county and city jail populations to potentially decrease recidivism rates through the development of services for court-involved individuals with mental health needs. These services are intended to facilitate access to programs that offer mental health services upon release from confinement.

This report is a summary of the BHOs and Southwest FIMC Region plans for providing jail-based services. During FY 2018, the Department will collect data and report the number of individuals served and types of services provided to the Office of Financial Management and Legislature by December 1, 2018.

JAIL TRANSITION SERVICES

Individuals experiencing incarceration often have multiple immediate needs, including behavioral and physical health issues requiring ongoing care, housing, income support, employment, and education. Accessing services to address these needs is key for individuals to successfully transition back into their communities. Many individuals experiencing serious mental illness end up incarcerated due to behavior that is associated with the symptoms of their illness. Jail-based services staff help link incarcerated individuals experiencing a serious mental illness with appropriate community services and to increase the likelihood of successful community reintegration.

These activities include efforts to expedite applications for new or re-instated Medicaid benefits, referral, and “warm hand-offs” to a community mental health agency, and in some cases, conducting the intake evaluation while the individual is still incarcerated. Services provided as part of this program are intended to facilitate safe transition into community services.

DBHR surveyed the BHOs and Southwest FIMC Region during this last year and each area indicated that the following types of services have been and will be provided by the BHOs and Southwest FIMC Region to individuals in county and city jails:

- Mental health evaluations/screening
- Mental health treatment (primarily outpatient)
- Mental health intake
- Substance use disorder assessments/screening
- Assistance with applying for Medicaid and other publically funded benefits
- Integrated dual disorder treatment
- Initiate pre-release services and case management
- Intensive post-release outreach
- Facilitating post incarceration access to basic needs resources (e.g. clothing, food, hygiene)
- Obtaining new identification (ID) upon release from custody
- Facilitating transportation at time of release
- Coordinating access to primary healthcare (including dental care) upon release
- Providing post-release housing support (linking to emergency shelter, transitional and linkage to assessment for low-income public housing)
- Providing post-release employment supports
- Facilitating access to education and other job training post-release

The majority of these services provide and allow for increased access to intensive, short-term case management to individuals with mental health disorders who are in need of assistance in reintegrating back into the community. Access to case management provides assistance for individuals to access publicly funded benefits (if eligible), housing assistance, outpatient treatment and other services including education, training, and employment in the community. Funding is contracted out to network providers to purchase services and fund FTE's including mental health professionals (MHPs) who provide on-site comprehensive mental health

evaluations for individuals. Mental health evaluation summaries are drafted and provided to the court to ensure collaboration on comprehensive discharge planning prior to participants being released to community care.

For the reporting period of July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2017, the BHOs, including the Southwest FIMC Region, reported that a total of 1,389 individuals were served through jail services receiving a total of 3,572 service encounters.

The Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery contacted each BHO and the Southwest FIMC Region and requested plans for their implementation of jail services funding for FY 2018. The following is a description of each BHO's plan for providing jail services.

Great Rivers Behavioral Health Organization

Great Rivers' BHO reports that they will continue to dedicate a jail services position that will work to decrease the recidivism rates not only for the jails but also in the emergency rooms, and psychiatric hospitals. The BHO will continue to work to provide intake assessments and case management to the incarcerated individuals and work to ensure there is a linkage to community services on release. The jail services position develops the initial recovery/diversion plan for all assigned clients and works to provide transition services between the clients and assigned case managers to ensure continuity of services for individuals in the jail. The position will continue to serve as liaison between the jail, courts, and crisis offices within the community and provide written reports and testimony to the courts as required. They will also continue to assist the inmates with application for Medicaid benefits to ensure the benefits are activated on release. Jail services staff will continue to provide consultation, education, and liaison to law enforcement, health personnel, and other appropriate agencies and groups.

Greater Columbia Behavioral Health Organization

Greater Columbia BHO reports that they will continue to contract out jail services to agencies within their provider network. The contracted services will include rehabilitation case management, and community transition services. Jail case managers provide case management services for incarcerated adults who have chronic mental illnesses or severe mental disorders. They provide evaluations and coordinate services in order to assist the person to maintain optimum health while incarcerated. Contracted providers will offer pre-release planning and transitional services to individuals with behavioral health needs to expedite, facilitate, and coordinate successful return into the community. Additionally, the jail services staff will offer post-release outreach to help ensure follow up with CSO for access to benefits, mental health and/or other necessary appointments. Jail MHPs direct activities of evaluation services, provides brief counseling, education and consultation within the jail environment. The program evaluates and provides jail staff custody management recommendations for inmates with behavioral health needs. The BHO's jail services program assists and coordinates alternative placement of inmates as appropriate to best meet their behavioral health needs.

King County Behavioral Health Organization

King County BHO reports that their jail services program will provide transitional and supportive services to participants who are incarcerated in the King County Jail and enrolled in the in-custody *Transitional Recovery Program* at the Maleng Regional Justice Center in Kent. The program will serve adults with behavioral health conditions who are transitioning from incarceration at the King County Correctional Facility in Seattle, and those who are court-ordered to report to the Community Center for Alternative Programs (a day reporting alternative) in Seattle. Services include; mental health evaluations, case management, discharge planning, assistance with applying for Medicaid, and other publically funded benefits.

North Central Behavioral Health Organization

North Central BHO reports that they intend to continue purchasing case management services. These services will include facilitating community transition care, both before and after release. These activities will provide support for access to housing, access to Medicaid benefits, and enrollment into continuing behavioral health services. This BHO is currently in the process of transitioning to integrated managed care but will utilize funds for jails services through December 31st, 2017.

North Sound Behavioral Health Organization

North Sound BHO reports that they intend to continue purchasing services that will include: initial eligibility screening, mental health assessment, enrollment into ongoing services post-release, coordination with contracted agencies, provision of resources to inmates while incarcerated, education regarding additional community resources related to homelessness, behavioral health treatment, employment assistance, and follow-up interviews with inmates who reoffend without completing services.

Optum/Pierce Behavioral Health Organization

Optum/Pierce BHO reports that they will continue to contract out jail services to agencies within their provider network. The contracted funding will help support a jail services team to continue to coordinate services while the individual is in custody and at the time of release. This service coordination will include assisting the individuals with their application for Medicaid, ensuring that each individual has appointments for services on release and working with the team to ensure a warm hand off to community services. The jail staff will continue to act as the liaisons with the courts and additional service providers and provide all written reports required.

Salish Behavioral Health Organization

The Salish BHO reports that they will continue to contract for jail services to agencies within their provider network to provide intakes, screenings, rehabilitation case management, and case planning.

Spokane County Regional Behavioral Health Organization

Spokane County Regional BHO reports that they will contract for jail services to agencies within their network to expand the outreach and counseling services within the jail setting to prepare/ensure that individuals have access to services as they transition back into the community.

Thurston/Mason Behavioral Health Organization:

Thurston/Mason BHO reports that they will expand the Community Integration Outreach (CIO) program to provide team based intensive services in 3 categories. Categories include individuals in jail with known or suspected mental illness, individuals in jail ready for release and transition back to the community, and individuals with mental illness in the community or unenrolled individuals in institutions or other settings ready for discharge that are or may become homeless due to mental illness. They will provide the following services; engagement, stabilization and coordinated care for individuals as they transition back into the community.

Southwest Region Fully Integrated Managed Care Region:

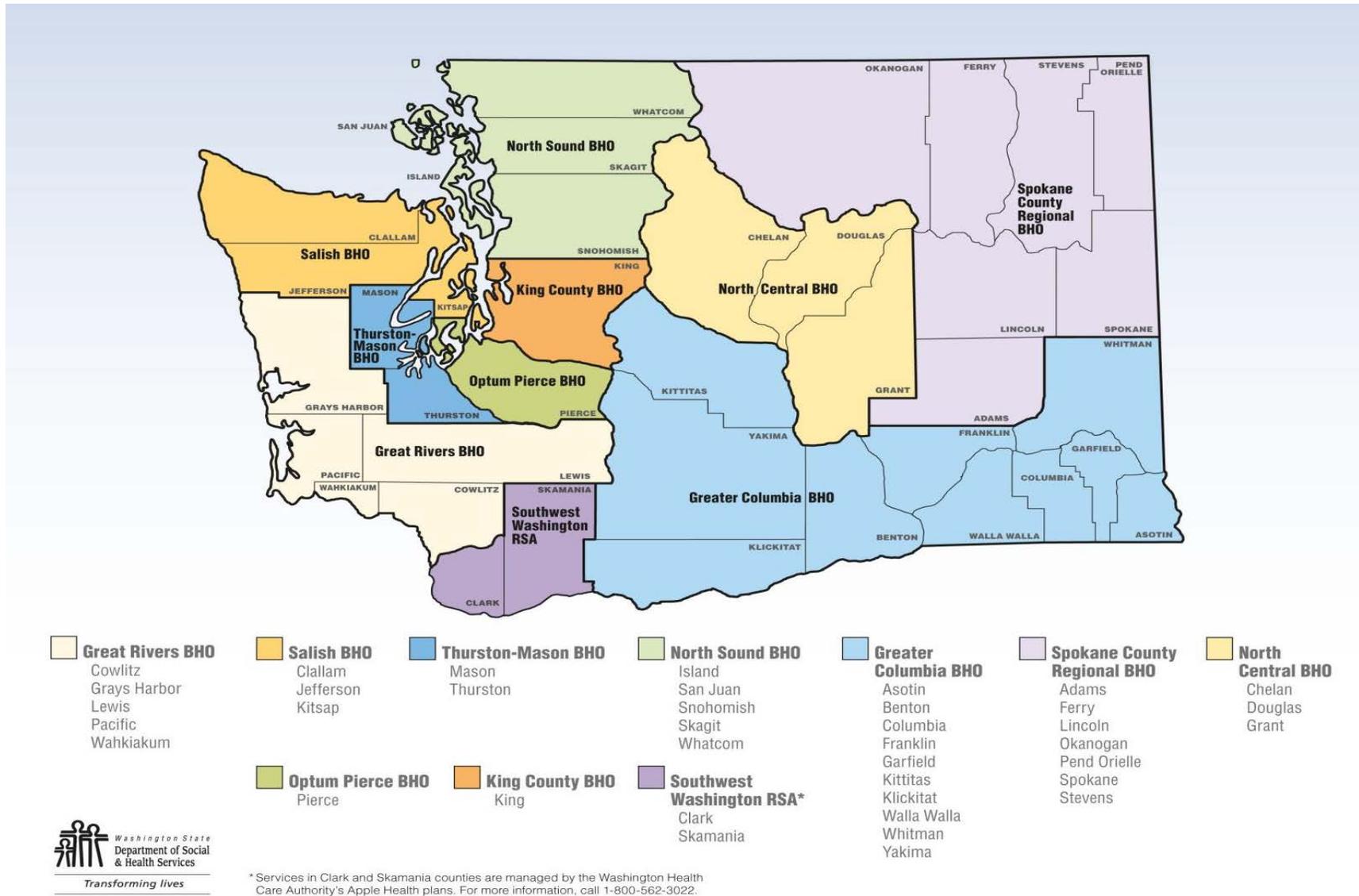
Southwest Region reports that they will continue to contract out for jail services to Lifeline Connections, which is part of their provider network. Lifeline plans to increase their master's level clinician's time to provide more assessments in the jail and provide individual and group therapy services. Lifeline will meet with the jails to gather feedback and to learn if additional services will be needed over the next year.

JAIL SERVICES FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

	Per Month	FY 17 Totals
King	\$55,269	\$663,228
North Central	\$5,669	\$68,028
North Sound	\$31,897	\$382,764
Salish	\$9,839	\$118,068
Thurston Mason	\$8,932	\$107,184
Great Rivers	\$7,628	\$91,536
Greater Columbia	\$19,721	\$236,652
Optum Pierce	\$22,502	\$270,024
Spokane	\$17,016	\$204,192
Southwest FMIC	\$12,444	\$149,328

Funding distribution model is based on 70% general population based on 2010 OFM Population data, and 30% Jail Average Daily Population. Notes: Average Daily Population provided by the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, Jail ADP includes county and city jails. General population census provided by OFM.

BHO MAP



DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY JAIL SERVICES PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

DBHR's plan for next year will be to update the contract language in the next amendment cycle and require all BHOs to report encounter data for jail services. DBHR contract managers will monitor and track the reported jail services encounters.