



Lori A. Weaver
Commissioner

Katja S. Fox
Director

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

129 PLEASANT STREET, CONCORD, NH 03301-3857
603-271-9544 1-800-852-3345 Ext. 9544
Fax: 603-271-4332 TDD Access: 1-800-735-2964 www.dhhs.nh.gov

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February 22, 2024

The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court and

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to the provisions of RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division for Behavioral Health, to accept and expend federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF), in the amount of \$765,917 to support Riverbend Community Mental Health renovations of property to establish a 12-bed community residence, effective upon approval by the Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council through September 30, 2024, and further authorize the allocation of these funds in the account below. This is an allowable use of ARPA SFRF funds under Section 602(c)(1)(A), to respond to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) or its negative economic impacts. 100% Federal Funds.

05-95-94-940010-2465¹ HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DEPT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, HHS: NEW HAMPSHIRE HOSPITAL, ARPA DHHS FISCAL RECOVERY FUND

¹ All direct program costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH9545A and all administrative and indirect costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH9545Z. Accounting classifications may be subject to technical changes at the discretion of the Department of Administrative Services' Division of Accounting Services.

CLASS OBJ	CLASS TITLE	Current Modified Budget	Increase/ (Decrease) Amount	Revised Modified Budget
000-400338-16	Federal Funds	\$ 100,323,565	\$ 765,917	\$ 101,089,482
00C-401350-68	Agency Indirect Cost	\$ 261,653		\$ 261,653
	General Fund	\$ -		\$ -
Total Revenue		\$ 100,585,218	\$ 765,917	\$ 101,351,135
010-500100	Personal Services Perm Class	\$ 76,256		\$ 76,256
018-500106	Overtime	\$ 5,000		\$ 5,000
020-500200	Current Expenses	\$ 160,010		\$ 160,010
022-500255	Rents-Leases other than State	\$ 3,080,058		\$ 3,080,058
030-500301	Equipment New/Replacement	\$ 68,001		\$ 68,001
039-500180	Telecommunications	\$ 300		\$ 300
040-500800	Indirect Costs	\$ 2,119,103		\$ 2,119,103
041-500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	\$ 101,009	\$ 765	\$ 101,774
042-500620	Additional Fringe Benefits	\$ 4,870		\$ 4,870
046-500462	Consultants	\$ 1		\$ 1
047-500240	Own Forces Maintenance (Bldg-Grnds)	\$ 1		\$ 1
048-500226	Contract Repairs: Bldg. Grounds	\$ 1		\$ 1
050-500109	Personal Services Temp	\$ 2,009		\$ 2,009
059-500117	Temp Full Time	\$ 77,458		\$ 77,458
060-500601	Benefits	\$ 24,906		\$ 24,906
070-500704	In-State Travel	\$ 1,000		\$ 1,000
072-502683	Grants Federal	\$ 3,726,929		\$ 3,726,929
085-588514	Interagency Transfers Out of Federal	\$ 52,750		\$ 52,750
102-500731	Contracts for Program Services	\$ 65,536,998	\$ 765,152	\$ 66,302,150
103-502507	Contracts for Operational Services	\$ 25,548,559		\$ 25,548,559
Total Expenses		\$ 100,585,218	\$ 765,917	\$ 101,351,135

EXPLANATION

The Department is requesting funding to be provided to Riverbend Community Mental Health (Riverbend) for the purpose of supporting renovations at 278 Pleasant Street to open a 12-bed licensed community residence. Through a contract with the Department, Riverbend will make these beds available for individuals in need of psychiatric stability and who also have ambulatory issues. Currently, the limited capacity for single-floor living within the system of care results in the most vulnerable and impaired clients waiting longer for appropriate housing opportunities to become available.

The 12-bed facility will allow for a higher staff-to-client ratio to offer more support to the residents. The space would include a family meeting room, clinical meeting space, a large space for group activities, a library, and a large dining room. These spaces are being designed to encourage family

and social connectedness as well as a calming, peaceful atmosphere for treatment. This request would also support the acquisition of a van for transportation to promote access to the broader community.

Approval of this request would also support the Department's "Mission Zero" goal of eliminating hospital emergency department psychiatric boarding. Lack of available supportive housing in the community continues to be a primary contributing factor impeding timely discharges from New Hampshire Hospital. Lack of available psychiatric inpatient beds leads to longer stays in emergency departments across the state of New Hampshire.

If this request is not approved, then the Department will be unable to support the opening of 12 additional residential beds. This in turn will impede the Department's Mission Zero goal and negatively impact New Hampshire residents experiencing mental illness.

Funds are budgeted as follows:

Class 041 – RSA 124:16 requires .1% to be budgeted to pay for financial and compliance audits.

Class 102 – The funds will be used to pay for a contract with Riverbend.

Source of Funds: These funds are 100% Federal Funds.

In the event that Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully Submitted,



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