

FORSYTH COUNTY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: OCTOBER 26, 2015 AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 3

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 BUDGET ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE FORSYTH COUNTY STEPPING UP INITIATIVE WHICH REDUCES THE NUMBER OF MENTALLY ILL INMATES IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT DETENTION CENTER (COUNTY MANAGER)

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION OR COMMENTS:- Recommend Approval

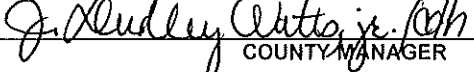
SUMMARY OF INFORMATION:

Mental illness and substance abuse issues are prevalent in many detainees at the Forsyth County Law Enforcement Detention Center (LEDC). The National Association of Counties has worked with other groups to raise awareness of the factors contributing to the over-representation of people with mental illnesses in jails and to develop practices and strategies to reduce these numbers.

This Budget Ordinance Amendment appropriates funds to establish a temporary part-time position to study the Forsyth County Law Enforcement Detention Center population and assess ways to better identify adults entering the LEDC with mental illnesses and to develop a plan with measurable outcomes to address the issue of mental illness in the LEDC. This study will also determine which programs and services are available in the county for people with mental illnesses and co-occurring substance use disorders.

The goal for completion of this study is nine months, at which time, a report will be issued to the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners.

ATTACHMENTS: yes no

SIGNATURE:  COUNTY MANAGER DATE: October 21, 2015

**FORSYTH COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
AMENDMENT TO
2015-2016 BUDGET ORDINANCE**

FROM: BUDGET & MANAGEMENT

MEETING DATE: October 26, 2015

EXPLANATION:

Mental illness and substance abuse issues are prevalent in many detainees at the Forsyth County Law Enforcement Detention Center (LEDC). The National Association of Counties has worked with other groups to raise awareness of the factors contributing to the over-representation of people with mental illnesses in jails and to develop practices and strategies to reduce these numbers.

On April 27, 2015, the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution supporting the Stepping Up Initiative to reduce the number of people with mental illness in jails. As part of this commitment, this Budget Ordinance Amendment appropriates funds to establish a temporary part-time position to study the Forsyth County Law Enforcement Detention Center population and assess ways to better identify adults entering the LEDC with mental illnesses and to develop a plan with measurable outcomes to address the issue of mental illness in the LEDC. This study will also determine which programs and services are available in the county for people with mental illnesses and co-occurring substance use disorders.

The goal for completion of this study is nine months, at which time, a report will be issued to the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT THE FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 BUDGET ORDINANCE IS HEREBY AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

DECREASE: SECTION 2. APPROPRIATIONS
GENERAL FUND \$50,000
NON-DEPARTMENTAL
Contingency

INCREASE: SECTION 2. APPROPRIATIONS.
GENERAL FUND
COUNTY MANAGER \$50,000

NATURE OF TRANSACTION:
 Additional Revenue Available
 Transfer within Accounts of
Same fund
 Other:

APPROVED BY BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS AND ENTERED ON
MINUTES DATED _____
AGENDA ITEM NUMBER _____

STEPPING UP: FORSYTH COUNTY'S RESPONSE TO A NATIONAL CALL TO ACTION TO REDUCE THE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE WITH MENTAL HEALTH AND/OR SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN JAIL

Stepping Up Steering Committee

Doris Páez, Ph.D.,

BACKGROUND

The National Association of Counties (NACo), the Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center, and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation (APAF) have come together to lead a national initiative to help advance counties' efforts to reduce the number of adults with mental and co-occurring substance use disorders in jails. With support from the U.S. Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Assistance, the initiative will build on the many innovative and proven practices being implemented across the country..

On April 27, 2015, the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution to support *Stepping Up: A National Initiative to Reduce the Number of People with Mental Illnesses in Jails*. This an initiative of the NACo CSG Justice Center and APAF which was formally launched in May 2015 is a Call to Action for strong county and state leadership and a shared commitment to a multi-step planning process that can achieve concrete results for jails in counties of all sizes. Specifically, county elected officials were asked to pass work with other leaders (e.g., the sheriff, judges, district attorney, treatment providers, and state and local policymakers), people with mental illnesses and their advocates, and other stakeholders to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jails.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

We propose to conduct community-focused research to produce the Stepping Up: Action Plan to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in the Forsyth County jail.

Methodology

Within the study a variety of methodologies will be incorporated to provide a comprehensive picture of mental health and substance abuse (MH/SA) issues facing persons in jail in Forsyth County.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The main goal of the project is to generate and implement a plan for the Forsyth County Step Up Initiative with knowledge of the population of Forsyth County PIJ/MH/SA and available behavioral health care resources and current barriers to the utilization of those resources.

The goal of the initiative will be accomplished through the following objectives:

1. **Create a coalition** of diverse team of leaders and decision makers from multiple agencies committed to safely reducing the number of people with mental illnesses in jails.
2. Establish a baseline of the rates of persons in jails with mental illnesses and their recidivism risk,
3. Generate a service map/director that identifies the programs and services are available in the county for people with mental illnesses and co-occurring substance use, disorders, and identify state and local policy and funding barriers to minimizing contact with the justice system and providing treatment and supports in the community.
4. Develop a plan with measurable outcomes that draws on the needs and prevalence assessment data and examination of available treatment and service capacity, while considering identified barriers.
5. Implement research-based approaches that advance the plan.
6. Create an initiative evaluation plan.
7. Share lessons learned with other counties in North Carolina and across the U.S.

PROJECT TEAM

Doris Páez, Ph.D., Project Manager

Steering Committee – Provide assistance in development of the scope of project and project goals, as well as feedback throughout the project.

DELIVERABLES

The Forsyth County Stepping Up Project will result in the following eight (8) deliverables:

1. Coalition Charter
2. Indicators Report
3. Services Analysis Report
4. Services and Resources Action Plan
5. Best Practices Paper
6. Evaluation Plan

All data collected, and the deliverables will be available to the local, state and national community through Forsyth Count' website. Dr.Páez will be available available for a community presentation(s) of the findings at the end of the project.

TIMELINE

INITIATIVE DRAFT

The estimated project length is nine (9) months. We propose a project initiation date of November 1, 2015 and the project completion target date is July, 2016. It is hoped that the pilot year results will be presented at the NACo's 81st Annual Conference & Exposition, July 22 to July 25, 2016.

Project tasks and projected dates are presented in Table 1. The timeline may shift based on the availability of stakeholders, steering committee members and access to data.

Table 1. Stepping Up Time Line

ACTIVITIES	NOV 2015	DEC 2015	JAN 2016	FEB 2016	MAR 2016	APR 2016	MAY 2016	JUN 2016	JULY 2016
PIJ/MH/SA Coalition: Convene or draw on a diverse team of leaders and decision makers from multiple agencies committed to safely reducing the number of people with mental illnesses in jails/									
PIJ/MH/SA Indicators: Collect and review prevalence numbers and assess individuals' needs to better identify adults entering jails with mental illnesses and their recidivism risk, and use that baseline information to guide decision making;									
PIJ/MH/SA Services Analysis: Examine treatment and service capacity to determine which programs and services are available in the county for people with mental illnesses and co-occurring substance use disorders, and identify state and local policy and funding barriers to minimizing contact with the justice system and providing treatment and supports in the community;									
PIJ/MH/SA Action Plan: Develop a plan with measurable outcomes that draws on the needs and prevalence assessment data and examination of available treatment and service capacity, while considering identified barriers;									
PIJ/MH/SA Service Plan: Implement research-based approaches that advance the plan;									
PIJ/MH/SA Evaluation Plan: Create a process to track progress using data and information systems, and to report on successes.									
PIJ/MH/SA Information Portal: Share lessons learned with other counties in North Carolina and across the U.S.									

The estimated project budget is presented in Table 2. The estimated project cost for the initiative is \$75,000. Project costs are based on staff hours and materials required for primary and secondary data collection, research, analysis, document production, and presentations.

Table 2. Stepping Up Project

<i>Budget item</i>	ESTIMATED COSTS
Project Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • initiation ('kick-off' or start) • planning and development • connecting to, reviewing and learning to use NACo resources • production and implementation (execution) • monitoring and controlling • closing 	\$25,000
Convening and meeting costs	\$2,000
Printing	\$6,000
Best practices literature review	\$4,000
Data collection process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • design • collection • analysis • compilation 	\$25,000
Funding Policy analysis	\$6,000
Documents production - Writing	\$16,000
Communication –information dissemination, portal – FC webpage	\$5,000
Estimated Total	\$89,000