

MIDD 2 Initiative CD-02: Youth and Young Adult Homelessness Services (NEW)

How does the program advance the adopted MIDD policy goals?

This initiative will impact the adopted MIDD policy goals of “divert individuals with behavioral health needs from costly interventions, such as jail, emergency rooms, and hospitals.”

This initiative, in collaboration with initiative CD-16, Youth Behavioral Health Alternatives to Secure Detention, is a coordinated approach to supporting youth under the age of 18 experiencing homelessness and who, as a result of being disconnected from their families, are coming into contact with law enforcement and/or the juvenile justice system through at-risk youth or truancy petitions. Together these initiatives will expand and support the behavioral health crisis system continuum to support populations of homeless and at-risk youth whose needs are not currently being met.

This approach is also consistent with the principles of King County’s plans for behavioral health integration and health and human services transformation, which call for reduced fragmentation across systems, increased flexibility of services and coordination of care, and strong emphasis on prevention, recovery and elimination of disparities for marginalized populations.

1. Program Description

◇ A. Service Components/Design (Brief)

This initiative provides mobile crisis outreach team(s) to youth under the age of 18 who are potentially homeless. Components include expanding and enhancing the Children’s Crisis Outreach Response System (CCORS) program to ensure immediate access to youth, families, law enforcement officers and other community organizations to mobile crisis outreach 24/7 anywhere within the county. The crisis outreach team will work to de-escalate the current crisis. Once the crisis is stabilized, the crisis outreach team will complete a comprehensive assessment of the youth and family’s current strengths, resources, and needs and provide time-limited in-home and community based supports that ensure linkage to ongoing services, provide parents and family members the tools they need to manage ongoing behavior, and get youth back on track.

When the crisis situation cannot be stabilized and/or calls for a more intensive response, the crisis team will have access to crisis stabilization beds, located within existing DCHS providers, where youth can stay for up to 14 days (or longer if necessary). The stabilization beds are described in initiative CD-16 Alternatives to Secure Detention.

◇ *B. Goals*

Improving behavioral health services for youth under the age of 18 who may be homeless and/or disconnected from their families and come into contact with, or are at risk of coming into contact with law enforcement/juvenile justice and divert youth from a pathway of justice involvement, are linked to appropriate behavioral health services and treatment, and help ensure that their homelessness is a brief and one-time experience.

◇ *C. Preliminary Performance Measures (based on MIDD 2 Framework)*⁶⁰

1. *How much? Service Capacity Measures*

It is unclear exactly what the volume of crisis response need will be for homeless youth at risk of juvenile justice involvement. CCORS will track the number of referrals from various referral sources as well as the number of outreaches, location, client demographics and other key service measures to ensure that the capacity of the CCORS teams meets the volume of need. They will also track crisis stabilization bed utilization and disposition.

2. *How well? Service Quality Measures*

- Increased use of preventive (outpatient) services
- Increased housing stability

3. *Is anyone better off? Individual Outcome Measures*

- Reduced behavioral health risk factors
- Reduced unnecessary incarceration, hospital and emergency department use
- Reduction of crisis events

◇ *D. Provided by: Contractor*

⁶⁰ Throughout 2017, review and refinement of Results-Based Accountability (RBA) performance measures for MIDD 2 initiatives will be conducted whenever applicable, in consultation with providers. Updates to performance measures that may result from this collaborative process will be reported in the next MIDD Annual Report in August 2018.

2. Spending Plan

Year	Activity	Amount
2017 July 1-Dec 31	Mobile crisis outreach team(s) increased capacity	\$150,000
2017 Annual Expenditure		\$150,000
2018	Mobile crisis outreach team(s)	\$457,800
2018 Annual Expenditure		\$457,800
Biennial Expenditure		\$607,800

3. Implementation Schedule

◇ A. *Procurement and Contracting of Services*

Services offered under this initiative will be contracted for with the YMCA and managed by staff within King County Department of Community and Human Services.

◇ B. *Services Start date (s)*

Services are expected to start in July 2017.

4. Community Engagement Efforts

This initiative, along with CD-16 Youth Behavioral Health Alternatives to Secure Detention, was developed in collaboration with the County’s Juvenile Justice Equity Steering Committee (JJESC). County staff will work with the provider and a design group from the JJESC to refine this initiative to ensure that it is responsive to the population it serves and community needs. The JJESC will also participate in ongoing monitoring of implementation and operations.

Stakeholders and partners will continue to be consulted as design and implementation proceed.