

Letter of Commitment – Behavioral Health Consortium

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Grant Application HRSA-20-031 *Rural Communities Opioid Response Program-Implementation*

As Behavioral Health Consortium (BHC) members, we the undersigned, understand and commit to the stated mission and deliverables of the Rural Opioid Response Program – Implementation for the life of the funding sought in the above grant proposal.

This Consortium will continue to engage the county and community resource key leaders to implement its strategic plan focused on support in Jefferson County for OUD, which prioritizes the following goals:

- Low capital projects that use and/or expand on existing community resources to divert the inflow of people from the Hospital Emergency Department and the criminal justice system to appropriate treatment and social services. This will include enhancing supports to Law/EMS for call navigation and BH service connection, improving jail-to-community transitions, maintaining DBH's day program; and improving access to resources; and
- The development of a crisis stabilization center or similar type facility. It is estimated that at least three years is needed to secure a site, the capital needed to construct/renovate a facility, and to equip, train and secure all required licensing and certification.

We understand that our role in this Consortium is as an equal part of a team and as an equal contributor; that the grant award is not to be used for the exclusive benefit of any one consortium member; that the grant's focus is implementation of the Consortium's strategic plan; that envisioned, stated project is limited to Jefferson County, WA; and that the plan focus is prevention, treatment and recovery for county residents suffering from OUD. We explicitly commit to providing aggregate performance data and relevant information in compliance with HRSA requirements to Jefferson County Public Health.

We, the undersigned, recognize Jefferson County Public Health (JCPH) as the lead role in this initiative, and understand that role, its responsibilities, and its activities in the Consortium will include:

- Provide a designated representative to attend all Consortium-related meetings and events, and provide locations for facilitation if space available.
- Assist in strategy measures, and provide guidance and approval of procedures.
- Provide comments, insights, impressions and understandings regarding the delivery of the program to allow for improvements.
- Ensure all activities are conducted in compliance with applicable State, Federal and Local Laws, rules and regulations.
- Use grant funding only for the purpose of planning an OUD treatment and recovery option in the County, as outlined in the HRSA-19-081 grant application.
- Other roles as outlined in the MOU.

We, the undersigned, are explicitly committed to the success of this proposal. Our community faces a significant OUD challenge, and lacks critical resources to properly address community members' prevention, treatment and recovery. We look forward to working together to solve this problem.

Letter of Commitment – Behavioral Health Consortium

Jefferson County Public Health (JCPH) has been committed to community health issues in the County for many years, being one of three funders (the City, Jefferson Healthcare hospital, and JCPH) of the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) program, who will carry out the work proposed in this grant proposal. Our commitment is evident, not just in our financial support, but in our presence on the Behavioral Health Consortium (BHC) and our commitment to its stated mission and deliverables.

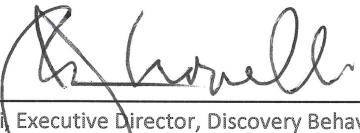
JCPH provides essential programs and services that protect and improve the health of our community. Our Substance Abuse Prevention program works in collaboration with community partners to prevent the initiation of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs by providing education and support to individuals, school, families and the community. We are aware of the increase in Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) deaths in the County, and the lack of emergency and stabilization services for residents suffering from OUD/MH issues who come to the attention of law enforcement, and are eager to participate in any initiative that addresses this in a manner particular and relevant to our community.

Signed:  Date: 4/30/2020
Vicki Kirkpatrick, Jefferson County Public Health, 615 Sheridan Street, Port Townsend, WA 98368

Jefferson Healthcare is the primary healthcare facility in Jefferson County, with services that include a critical access care hospital, an emergency room, and clinics throughout the community. Jefferson County currently lacks an OUD Emergency Treatment and Stabilization Center and, because a majority of Law Enforcement and EMS calls deal primarily with the County's OUD/MH demographic, community members are continuously cycled in and out of the Jail and Emergency Department, instead of being connected crisis to stabilization services and the long-term MAT, mental health and social services needed stability, recovery and wellness.

Signed:  Date: 4/22/20
Mike Glenn, Chief Executive Officer, Jefferson Healthcare, 834 Sheridan Street, Port Townsend, WA 98368

Discovery Behavioral Health is a trauma-informed Community Behavioral Health Center delivering behavioral health and wellness programs to communities throughout East Jefferson County for over 25 years. Aware of the increase in opioid and substance abuse in the County, and the consequences that emerge from it, DBH provides the county recovery-focused resources, and are often frustrated by the lack of emergency care and follow-on connections provided to those cycling through the criminal justice system.

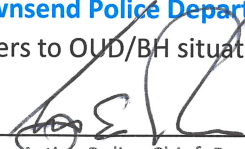
Signed:  Date: 4/27/2020
Jim Novelli, Executive Director, Discovery Behavioral Health, 884 W Park Avenue, Port Townsend, WA 98368

East Jefferson Fire Rescue provides EMS services to the city of Port Townsend and the greater Jefferson County are the first responders for situations involving persons suffering from substance use disorder and mental and behavioral health issues. In most cases, the only local options are to take the person to the County Jail or the County Hospital. We see how residents with OUD/MH issues are continuously cycled in and out of the county jail and the hospital emergency department, neither of which have the facilities to provide long-term MAT and social services these residents need for stability, recovery and wellness.

Signed:  Date: 4/29/2020
Jim Walkowski, Fire Chief, East Jefferson Fire Rescue, 24 Seton Road, Port Townsend, WA 98368

Letter of Commitment – Behavioral Health Consortium

Port Townsend Police Department (PTPD) is a city law enforcement agency, also often first line responders to OUD/BH situations in Port Townsend.

Signed:  Date: 04/24/2020
Troy Surber, Acting Police Chief, Port Townsend Police Department, 1925 Blaine St #100, Port Townsend, WA 98368


Jefferson County Sheriff's Office is a county law enforcement agency, also often first line responders to OUD/BH situations in Jefferson County.

Signed:  Date: 4/29/2020
Joe Nole, Sheriff, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, 81 Elkins Rd, Port Hadlock, WA 98339

Jefferson County Prosecutor's Office represents the criminal justice perspective within Jefferson County's Therapeutic Courts, including Behavioral Health Therapeutic Court and Drug Therapeutic Court.

Signed:  Date: 29 Apr 2020
James Kennedy, Prosecuting Attorney, Jefferson County Prosecutor's Office, 1820 Jefferson St, Port Townsend, WA 98368

Safe Harbor Recovery Center / Beacon of Hope provides non-court-related substance abuse and alcohol rehabilitation and counselling services in Jefferson County.

Signed:  Date: 4-27-2020
Ford Kessler, President and CEO, Safe Harbor Recovery Center/Beacon of Hope, 686 Lake St, Port Townsend, WA 98368

Believe in Recovery is a private substance abuse rehabilitation service with regular and intensive outpatient treatment and counseling services, including cognitive/behavioral therapy.

Signed:  Date: 4-29-2020
Gabbie Caudill, Clinical Director, Believe in Recovery, 211 Taylor St, Suite 20, Port Townsend, WA 98368

The Recovery Café (a program of Dove House Advocacy Services) is a recovery community center where members find support for recovery from addiction, mental illness, and homelessness. At Recovery Café, members achieve the stability they need to gain and maintain access to housing, social and health services, healthy relationships, education, and employment. Services include a healing environment with free meals, coffee and social activities; peer-led Recovery Circle support groups; classes in the School for Recovery; and referrals to community resources.

Signed:  Date: 4-30-2020
Beulah Kingsolver, Executive Director, Dove House Advocacy Services, 1045 10th Street, Port Townsend, WA 98368

The Alcohol & Drug Abuse Institute is a multidisciplinary research center at U. Washington that is a focal point for alcohol and drug abuse research in the northwest region.

Signed:  Date: 5/06/2020
Lisa Rey Thomas, Research Scientist, Alcohol & Drug Abuse Institute, 1107 NE 45th St, Suite 120, U. Washington, Box 354805, Seattle, WA 98105