



ITEM NO. (ID # 4637)

DATE: 09/05/2017

AGENDA REQUEST

\*CONSENT AGENDA\COUNTY ATTORNEY

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**PRESENTED BY:** Roy Hudson, Criminal Justice Coordinator

**SUBMITTED BY:** County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Approve Jail Diversion Contract with New Horizons of the Treasure Coast

**BACKGROUND:**

Since 2005/2006, the Board has funded New Horizons of the Treasure Coast Inc. to provide services to individuals involved with the criminal justice system that suffer from mental and or substance abuse disorders. The \$481,000 in funding from the Fine and Forfeiture Fund provides housing, medication, case management, psycho-social rehabilitation and substance abuse services in community based settings. The contract for services is for \$481,000.00.

Early intervention opportunities for mental health and substance abuse offenders provide these defendants/offenders with access to alternative, more appropriate community mental health treatment at a cost significantly less than the cost of incarceration.

New Horizons of the Treasure Coast, Inc. partners closely with the courts and criminal justice system to provide a broad range of mental health and substance abuse services. As a nonprofit corporation providing residential and outpatient mental health and substance abuse rehabilitation for over 50 years it has been the primary local provider of substance abuse and mental health services.

Since mental health court started in 2006, there have been over 1,159 clients, and we currently have 176 active cases. The national average cost of mental health cases in custody is \$125.00 per day. Mental health cases can stay up to seven (7) times longer than the average inmate (the average is 35 days). It should also be noted that the recidivism rate is only 10.2 percent for individuals completing the mental health court program. The national average for mental health clients is 78 percent recidivism.

**PREVIOUS ACTION:**

Since FY06/07, the Board has funded the jail diversion services provided by New Horizons of the Treasure Coast.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

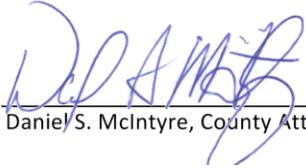
\$481,000 has been approved in the criminal justice budget for FY17/18 for mental health services through New Horizons. The account string is: 107-2360-534000-2904 (Other Contractual Services)

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the Board deem New Horizons as the provider in accordance with Florida Statutes 287.057(3)(e)(6) and enter into a contract with New Horizons for the wrap around services that are needed for the jail diversion clients to begin October 1, 2017 thru September 30, 2018.

**COMMISSION ACTION:**

**Coordination/Signatures**



Daniel S. McIntyre, County Attorney

8/24/2017



Jennifer Hill, Interim Office of Management and Budget Director

8/24/2017