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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/19/09

SPONSOR Papen LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Mental Health Disorder Needs and Services SJM 35

ANALYST Earnest

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	None		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

NM Corrections Department (NMCD)
 Human Services Department (HSD)
 Department of Health (DOH)
 Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Joint Memorial requests the New Mexico Behavioral Health Collaborative and its member departments meet to study the needs of and available resources for people with mental health disorders in crisis situations, and to develop strategies to improve services, treatment and care outside of law enforcement and detention in order to reduce the number of people with mental health disorders who are in detention facilities or require law enforcement intervention. It also requests that the Collaborative report its findings to the appropriate interim legislative committee by December 1, 2009.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None identified.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

SJM 35 utilizes the Collaborative and the Behavioral Health Planning Council to convene the named stakeholders so there would be limited financial impact for HSD or BHSD associated with staff attendance at meetings and completing associated tasks. SJM 35's finding could have fiscal implications for the Collaborative based on findings and service system recommendations.

NMCD states that if the work of the Collaborative leads to better and more abundant mental health treatment and services for New Mexico citizens, it is likely to help prevent certain individuals from ever being sentenced to prison or placed on probation or parole for certain crimes stemming from their mental illnesses or disorders. Thus, it could ultimately reduce the prison population and probation/parole caseloads to a minimal degree or perhaps even to a higher degree.

The contract/private prison annual cost of incarcerating an inmate is \$27,761 per year for males. The cost per client to house a female inmate at a privately operated facility is \$31,600 per year. Because state owned prisons are essentially at capacity, any net increase in inmate population will be housed at a contract/private facility.

The cost per client in Probation and Parole for a standard supervision program is \$1,205 per year. The cost per client in Intensive Supervision programs is \$3,848 per year. The cost per client in Community Corrections is \$3,830 per year. The cost per client per year for male and female residential Community Corrections programs is \$25,161.

According to HSD:

The Behavioral Health Collaborative amended its current Strategic Priorities to include both "Crisis" and "Jail Diversion" after receiving public input from a number of New Mexico communities about conditions under which people with mental illness and substance use crises are held in jails and detention facilities. "Crisis" and "Jail Diversion" services represent a policy priority for both the Collaborative and a number of Local Collaboratives.

According to *A Community-Based Comprehensive Psychiatric Crisis Response Service (TAC, 2005)*, "There is a considerable body of evidence suggesting that comprehensive crisis services can improve outcomes for consumers, reduce inpatient hospital stays and costs, and facilitate access to other necessary mental health services and supports." "Crisis services cut across many different systems, including: Social services: Housing, medical benefits, child welfare, etc. Legal: Involuntary confinement or detainment for the purpose of treatment and evaluation; Health: Medical services; and Community and personal safety: Law enforcement assessment of danger to self or the community."

In response to both the prioritization of "Crisis" and "Jail Diversion" by the Collaborative and Local Collaboratives and the findings presented in the TAC Monograph, the Adult Subcommittee of the Behavioral Health Planning Council has begun work on strengthening currently funded crisis and also jail diversion efforts in targeted communities, including Albuquerque, Las Cruces and Alamogordo. Dona Ana County in particular has been working in a collaborative way locally with assistance from the Behavioral Health Services Division to plan and implement various elements of an

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effective crisis system. SJM 35 allows this work to be expanded to other key players that are essential to the development and implementation of a comprehensive psychiatric crisis response service system in New Mexico.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None identified.

RELATIONSHIP

SJM35 also relates to Senate Bill 147, which would amend the Mental Health Code to extend emergency detention from no more than 24 hours to no more than 72 hours for individuals in need of an emergency mental health evaluation.

BE/sec