

**Rehabilitation Administration – Special Commitment Center  
135 - M2 - ML - COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

**Agency Submittal: 2015-17 Final 2017 Sup**

**Budget Period: 2015-17**

**SUMMARY**

The Special Commitment Center (SCC) is at risk for failing to comply with Revised Code of Washington (RCW) and Washington Administrative Code (WAC) standards related to emergency medical response operations on McNeil Island as well as meeting Disabilities Rights Washington (DRW) settlement agreement requirements for independent program monitoring, without overspending in other program areas. The SCC lacks the capability to support multiple emergency medical transports and the use of off island assets to supplement emergency transports is impractical due to a limited barge schedule and the amount of time it takes to travel to the island. Additionally, the SCC must fund an independent oversight contract related to programming requirements for special needs residents as stipulated in the DRW settlement agreement. This package will fund both emergency medical technician (EMT) training as well as costs related to the contract monitoring specified in the DRW settlement agreement. SCC requests \$67,000 GF-State.

**PROBLEM STATEMENT**

SCC risks liability because of limited emergency medical care staff and unfunded EMT training. These requirements are mandated by RCW 18.73.150 and WAC 296-305-01509. The SCC is located on an island and is responsible for providing its own emergency medical response services. Compliance with these requirements necessitates that the SCC to pay for EMT training from operational funding that has not been allocated to the budget. Additionally, WAC 246-976-390 (4)(b)(i) directs that at least two certified individuals will provide trauma response on a certified ambulance. Since the SCC exists on an island, two emergency medical teams must be present on the island at all times in order to provide coverage when the first team departs the island with a patient. To meet this minimum requirement for all three shifts it is necessary to train a minimum of ten staff annually. Failure to fund this would result in a loss of the SCC Ambulance License and result in no emergency medical transport capability on the island. The cost of an outside contractor to provide this service would be more than \$1 million dollars annually for 24/7/365 coverage. Finally, due to limited barge operations and the length of time it takes the barge to reach the island, it is unrealistic to use Pierce County or other private ambulance services.

The SCC has entered into a settlement agreement with DRW involving the care and treatment of residents with serious mental illness, intellectual and developmental disabilities, brain injuries and other cognitive conditions and those residents' inability to effectively participate in the treatment program offered at the SCC. The settlement agreement stipulates the SCC will fund an independent oversight contract to monitor the terms of the settlement agreement. The independent third party will monitor SCC progress toward meeting the agreed upon performance standards in the settlement agreement and will report to DRW.



**DSHS VISION**

People are healthy • People are safe • People are supported • Taxpayer resources are guarded

**DSHS MISSION**

To transform lives

**DSHS VALUES**

Honesty and Integrity • Pursuit of Excellence • Open Communication • Diversity and Inclusion • Commitment to Service

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**PROPOSED SOLUTION**

The SCC requests funding to maintain compliance with state emergency medical response service requirements and DRW monitoring.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

The SCC will meet all RCW and WAC requirements related to emergency medical response operations on McNeil Island as well as meeting DRW settlement agreement requirements for independent program monitoring.

**STAKEHOLDER IMPACT**

This proposal is expected to have support from Disability Rights Washington.

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Program Contact: Georgina Carleton, 360-902-8107

OTHER CONNECTIONS

Performance Outcomes/Important Connections

**1. Does this DP provide essential support to one or more of the Governor's Results Washington priorities?**

Goal 5: Efficient, Effective and Accountable Government – Customer Satisfaction and Employee Engagement

**2. Not ApplicableThe decision package meets the following DSHS' strategic objectives:**

6.1: Increase public safety through provision of coordinated rehabilitative services to residents at SCC.

7.1: Maintain a productive, effective organization and maximize the ability to deliver services within available resources.

**3. Identify other important connections or impacts below.** (Indicate 'Yes' or 'No'. If 'Yes' identify the connections or impacts related to the proposal.)

a) Regional/County impacts? No

b) Other local government impacts? No

c) Tribal government impacts? No

d) Other state agency impacts? No

e) Responds to specific task force, report, mandate or executive order? No

f) Does request contain a compensation change or require changes to a Collective Bargaining Agreement? No

g) Facility/workplace needs or impacts? No

h) Capital budget impacts? No

i) Is change required to existing statutes, rules or contracts? No

j) Is the request related to litigation? No

k) Is the request related to Puget Sound recovery? No

l) Other important connections? N/A

**4. Please provide a detailed discussion of connections/impacts identified above.**

N/A

Alternatives/Consequences/Other

**5. What alternatives were explored by the agency, and why was this alternative chosen?**

SCC has attempted to meet emergency medical transport requirements within current funding levels but has not been able to accomplish this additional training without overspending in other areas of the SCC. The recent DRW agreement for independent program monitoring is a new funding requirement and SCC requires additional funding to support this requirement.

**6. How has or can the agency address the issue or need within its current appropriation level?**

The SCC is not able to support these requirements without overspending in other program areas.

**7. Does this decision package include funding for any IT-related costs (hardware, software, services, cloud-based services, contracts or IT staff)?**

- No**
- Yes (Include an IT Addendum)**

