

# AGING & LONG-TERM SUPPORT ADMIN Behavior Support Intervention



## 2016 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

Request	FY16	FY17	15-17
FTE	0	4.0	2.0
GF-State	\$0	\$656,000	\$656,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,311,000</b>	<b>\$1,311,000</b>

### DECISION PACKAGE SUMMARY

The Aging and Long Term Support Administration (AL TSA) requests \$1,311,000 (\$656,000 GF-State) to add new Medicaid waiver services for positive behavioral support resources and technical assistance for 500 clients during times of behavioral escalation, including those that occur outside typical business hours. This will improve the ability of Home and Community Services (HCS) to find placements when clients are discharged from state psychiatric and acute care hospitals and the likelihood that clients can remain stable in these placements.

### PROBLEM STATEMENT

To maintain community options for AL TSA residential clients at risk for unnecessary psychiatric hospitalization, clients and providers need access to in-person positive behavioral support resources and technical assistance during times of behavioral escalation, including those that occur outside typical business hours. Behavioral escalation is a frequent cause of re-hospitalizations, which are expensive and often not the most effective way to support the resident to remain in the community. Behaviors that create a major challenge for the residential provider include yelling, elopement, an individual making statements that threaten assault, spontaneous aggressive posturing or other actions that could put the client, provider or other residents at risk.

Access to these timely supports will provide stability for clients and providers, and improve the skills of providers to identify triggers and successful de-escalation strategies. These services will support AL TSA to meet the goals of increasing the capacity for residential providers to respond effectively to behavioral challenges and reducing unnecessary emergency room and psychiatric hospitalization for individuals who do not meet the criteria of crisis as defined in the mental health system.

### PROPOSED SOLUTION

AL TSA will amend an existing 1915(c) Medicaid Waiver to allow contracted services that offer enhanced behavior support intervention services that allow response to residential clients at times of behavior escalation, cross-system transition and crisis planning. This will include clients in assisted living facilities, enhanced service facilities, and - primarily - adult family homes. The additional contracted services will include: pre-transition behavior support planning that occurs while clients are still in institutional settings, and capability to provide after-hours, in-person response to residential providers when clients are exhibiting escalating behaviors. In addition, funds will support enhanced cross-system coordination and training for residential providers, state staff and community partners.



**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

The additional waiver services would be available to approximately 500 individuals per year. To manage this new service, four new positions are created in the department to develop and manage the new set of waiver services and to provide additional capacity at the local level to support the clients to remain in the community. These include one Behavior Support Specialist at headquarters, and one Social Service Specialist 3 in each of the department's regions.

In addition, AL TSA will collaborate with the department's Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) to develop a training plan for partners across the systems of care.

#### **EXPECTED RESULTS**

The length of time individuals wait for discharge options at the state hospital will be reduced. The number of AL TSA clients who are diverted from or transition out of state or local psychiatric beds will be less likely to be re-admitted to emergency rooms or one of the state hospitals, allowing state hospital ward space to be repurposed for other types of mental health clients more appropriate for hospital settings.

#### **STAKEHOLDER IMPACT**

Residential providers and client advocates are expected to support the additional services to promote successful residential transitions.