

## 2014 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

### WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Request	FY14	FY15	13-15
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0
GF-State	\$0	\$2,161,000	\$2,161,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,161,000</b>	<b>\$2,161,000</b>

#### DECISION PACKAGE SUMMARY

The Behavioral Health and Service Integration Administration (BHSIA) requests funding for Western and Eastern State Hospitals in order to address workplace violence prevention matters at the state hospitals. A core performance metric for BHSIA and the state hospitals is reduction of patient/staff assaults. Investments in workplace violence prevention efforts at the hospitals are key to meeting the performance target for this metric during the 2013-15 biennium and beyond.

#### PROBLEM STATEMENT

Western and Eastern State Hospitals need to replace patient furniture that is not designed for state hospital settings. Most patient care areas have furniture designed to be used in a standard residential or office environment. Many of these furniture items are light enough to be used as a weapon or thrown and heavy enough to cause potentially serious injury to a person being struck.

Western State Hospital (WSH) needs to add public address speaker systems to building interiors and exteriors to allow for rapid emergency communications. Currently, overhead public address systems are available in a limited number of buildings at WSH. The grounds of WSH have no external speakers or emergency communication capability. Because of this the hospital does not have the capability to provide vital emergency information throughout all buildings and on the grounds. The hospital has put in place a system to notify persons at the hospital of emergency situations using email, voicemail, and overhead announcements within buildings that have systems. There is no way to notify people who may be on the grounds without sending personnel out and potentially placing them at risk during an emergency.

The high security WSH Center for Forensic Services (CFS) needs to add a second fence to the south yard to reduce the risk of escape and the potential passing of contraband to patients.

#### PROPOSED SOLUTION

This request will provide funding to purchase patient safe furniture for wards in both the forensics unit and on the civil wards and the Treatment Recovery Centers at WSH and ESH. The funding

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requested will address furniture needs in the highest acuity areas of the hospital. Additional needs in the lower acuity areas of the hospital beyond the requested funding can be addressed as operating funds permit. It is estimated that the furniture will cost \$1,662,000.

This request will provide funding to add 89 speakers within buildings and 11 outdoor speakers to provide full coverage for emergency announcements. This will allow for an immediate lockdown or other response during an emergency situation. It is estimated that this system will cost \$100,000.

This request will provide funding to add a second high security fence to the south yard; this will increase security by adding secure space in between the two fences. Security measures, including the use of cameras, yard sweeps, and personnel in the yard while in use will continue after a second fence is added. Capital program staff have estimated the cost of adding a second fence to be \$400,000.

#### EXPECTED RESULTS

Patient safe furniture will promote increased safety and reduce injuries for both patients and staff. The treatment environment of the wards and in the Treatment Recovery Centers will improve leading to better patient treatment, outcomes, and safety. It will also reduce the risk to staff resulting in reduced injuries and Labor and Industries worker compensation claims which will decrease hospital cost for time loss and workers compensation insurance into the future.

Implementation of the speakers will result in full coverage of the hospital grounds for public announcements and emergency response. This will allow WSH to respond to emergency situations such as an active shooter in a way that is more likely to effectively protect people and property.

The addition of the second fence in the south yard will result in a safer and more secure patient treatment environment in the CFS. The possibility of an escape or dangerous contraband being passed through the fence will be reduced. The safety of patients, staff, and members of the public will be increased.

This request supports Results Washington Goal 5 of Effective, Efficient and Accountable Government. Funding this request will decrease workplace injury rates.

#### STAKEHOLDER IMPACT

Stakeholders such as the Joint Commission for Hospital Accreditation, the Department of Labor and Industries, employee labor groups, and emergency responders will all support this request.