

MEMORANDUM



JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE

TO Joint Budget Committee Members
FROM Carolyn Kampman, JBC Staff (303-866-4959)
DATE March 16, 2017
SUBJECT Department of Human Services, Behavioral Health Services,
Tabled R10 Mental Health Institutes Security Enhancements

On March 2 the Committee considered the Department of Human Services' FY 2017-18 budget request for behavioral health programs. This memorandum concerns one of two items that were tabled (the other item was addressed on March 6). I have pasted below the relevant excerpt from my March 2 figure setting document (pages 16 and 17). Following the excerpt, I have included information that has been provided by the Department in response to several questions raised by the Committee on March 2.

→ R10 MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTES SECURITY ENHANCEMENTS

REQUEST: The Department requests \$609,307 General Fund for security enhancements at both mental health institutes. The Department indicates that ongoing funding of \$34,788 General Fund is required in FY 2018-19 and subsequent fiscal years.

RECOMMENDATION: **Staff recommends approving \$580,507 of the request for FY 2017-18.** Staff's recommendation excludes \$28,800 for replacing 36 security cameras in seclusion rooms at Colorado Mental Health Institute at Fort Logan (CMHIFL). The Department has acknowledged that these replacement costs would be covered if the Committee approves the request concerning capital outlay funding (R16). If the Committee does not approve R16, staff recommends approving the full amount requested for R10.

ANALYSIS: The Department indicates that this request is in response to "lock downs" at both mental health institutes and other escalating security risks. Specifically, the hospital security unit at the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Pueblo (CMHIP) responded to approximately 200 traffic-related incidents (e.g., driving under the influence (DUI), speeding, careless driving, failure to yield, motor vehicle accidents) from April 2015 to April 2016. Four of these incidents placed the campus at risk for an active shooter, person(s) with a gun, or high risk situation. The security unit at CMHIFL responded to 47 calls for service outside the facility in FY 2014-15, including suspicious persons, traffic accidents, and DUIs. Due to the increased number of high risk situations on or near CMHIP grounds, the security unit conducted an active shooter drill. This drill highlighted the need for additional training and key items that would be needed to assist in a real active shooter situation (e.g., a new phone system at the CMHIP communications desk and wireless headsets for security personnel).

The Department's request includes three components.

First, the Department requests a total of \$401,667 for security cameras, including:

- 34 to replace existing cameras in seclusion and restraint rooms; and
- 45 for areas not currently monitored, including seven for seclusion and restraint rooms, eight for medicine rooms, and 30 for common areas, high sensitivity areas, and external points of entry.

The new cameras will have more efficient, ultra-wide lenses to allow one to view an entire room, including the floor under the camera. The request also includes a vandal-resistant enclosure and DVR recording systems. Department indicates that \$34,788 of ongoing funding would be required to maintain security cameras.

Second, the Department requests \$117,160 for security staff training, weaponry, and gear. This request includes a total of \$100,760 for a variety of security-related items, including:

- A radio communication system for the CMHIP communication center and wireless headsets for security staff;
- Portable radios for CMHIFL;
- Training guns and ammunition;
- Protective gear, body armor and ballistic shields; and
- Flashlights.

This request also includes \$16,400 for specialized training, including active shooter training and tactical treatment of gunshot wounds.

Third, the Department requests \$90,480 for physical modifications at each institute:

- The Department requests \$64,300 to install a metal detector at the front door of the hospital at CMHIFL, and proximity readers for 25 external entry doors at CMHIFL which currently operate with a lock and key. The proximity readers will provide an automated log of individuals entering and exiting the facility and limit the need for issuing keys to hospital staff. This system would also allow CMHIFL to lock all doors remotely in a crisis situation.
- The Department requests \$26,180 to modify a nurses' station on the advanced cognitive behavioral unit at CMHIP. The current station does not provide sufficient privacy for patient records or staff conversations about patient care. The Department would also like to reconfigure the station to allow for better monitoring of patients via cameras and screens, and more space for charting (rather than having charts in another room).

Staff recommends approving the request to allow the Department to provide appropriate training and gear for security staff at both institutes. However, staff recommends appropriating \$28,800 less than the amount requested as this amount is included in the Department's capital outlay-related request (R16).

Department Responses to Committee Questions

1. Did the Department have the Department of Public Safety or another agency or vendor conduct a professional security assessment of each institute campus?

The Department did not request that the Department of Public Safety or another agency or vendor conduct a professional security assessment of each Institute campus as a result of the most recent incidents prior to submitting the request. However, the Department has conducted professional security assessments in the past. The Colorado Mental Health Institute at Fort Logan (CMHIFL) conducted an internal security assessment in FY 2013-14.

Also, in October 2008, at the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Pueblo (CMHIP), the Colorado Department of Public Safety/Homeland Security - Rubicon Team, conducted an All Hazards Vulnerability Assessment. Both the internal study and the Rubicon Team assessment identified vulnerabilities and included recommendations of which some can be addressed by this funding request. The assessments have not been redone as the security issues and approaches have not changed to a degree that warrants reassessments at this time.

2. Describe how the proposal to add a metal detector at the front door of the hospital and proximity readers at CMHIFL will enhance security. Please include a map or description that speaks to the questions about how this proposal addresses security for a campus that includes multiple buildings with multiple access points.

While the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Fort Logan (CMHIFL) campus is expansive, as indicated by the attached map [excluded by staff for purposes of this memorandum], with many buildings that are occupied by various offices within the Department, as well as leased tenants, this request is specific to the hospital (Institute) buildings. The attached map also identifies the proposed locations (doors) addressed by the funding request.

The metal detector will enhance security at CMHIFL as it will be placed at the main entry of the hospital (Building A). While the front door is monitored by a contracted security company, individuals are not patted down or wanded for metal items and dangerous contraband. All visitors are required to enter through the main entry and all other doors are locked. The hospital has 55 external entry points of which 19 of the entry points currently have proximity readers. This request includes 25 proximity door devices for the external entry points, which currently operate with a lock and key. The remaining doors are emergency exits that would not require a proximity door device.

The attached map provides extensive detail of the CMHIFL campus and all entry points. The first page of the map shows the layout of the campus and differentiates the Institute buildings from other Department buildings. A map of each Institute building is also provided. The existing card access doors and proposed card access doors are marked in each building to show the exact location and entry point.

3. Describe whether the proposed training for POST-certified staff duplicates the training they are required to take to maintain POST certification.

The Colorado Mental Health Institute at Fort Logan (CMHIFL) does not have a police force, while the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Pueblo (CMHIP) does operate a police force. The Department requested \$2,100 for POST Refresher Academy Recertification so that the Department can cover the training costs. This request is for FY 2017-18 only, and applies to the Director of Security at CMHIFL. The POST certification was not initially required of this position, however, given recent incidents, a POST certification is now required for the Director of Security position. On-going certification costs will be covered by the employee, as the POST certification will be a required component of this position description. POST re-certifications at CMHIP are paid for by the employees.

4. Describe how the Department plans to sustain the benefits of this training in future years without ongoing funding. If your base budget can cover the ongoing costs of the proposed training, why is additional funding needed in FY 2017-18?

The Department's proposal consists primarily of one-time costs such as training gear, security modifications, security gear, and training. The training costs in Year 1 will allow for existing staff to be trained as "trainers" and therefore eliminate the need for annual training expenses. Funds for training ammunition was only requested in Year 1, as it is estimated a higher amount of training ammunition will be used during the first year of this new training, and then normalize and be able to be absorbed into the operating budget in future years. The requested on-going costs were for annual camera repair and maintenance.