

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a matching grant program to support community mental health programs for individuals experiencing mental illness and the coordination of certain behavioral health grants.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 531.0999 to read as follows:

Sec. 531.0999. GRANT PROGRAM FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

(a) To the extent money is appropriated to the commission for that purpose, the commission shall establish a matching grant program for the purpose of supporting community mental health programs providing services and treatment to individuals experiencing mental illness.

(b) The commission shall ensure that each grant recipient obtains or secures contributions to match awarded grants in amounts of money or other consideration as required by Subsection (h). The money or other consideration obtained or secured by the recipient, as determined by the executive commissioner, may include cash or in-kind contributions from any person but may not include money from state or federal funds.

(c) Money appropriated to or obtained by the commission for the matching grant program must be disbursed directly to grant recipients by the commission, as authorized by the executive

1 commissioner.

2 (d) A grant awarded under the matching grant program and  
3 matching amounts must be used for the sole purpose of supporting  
4 community programs that provide mental health care services and  
5 treatment to individuals with a mental illness and that coordinate  
6 mental health care services for individuals with a mental illness  
7 with other transition support services.

8 (e) The commission shall select grant recipients based on  
9 the submission of applications or proposals by nonprofit and  
10 governmental entities. The executive commissioner shall develop  
11 criteria for the evaluation of those applications or proposals and  
12 the selection of grant recipients. The selection criteria must:

13 (1) evaluate and score:

14 (A) fiscal controls for the project;

15 (B) project effectiveness;

16 (C) project cost; and

17 (D) an applicant's previous experience with  
18 grants and contracts;

19 (2) address whether the services proposed in the  
20 application or proposal would duplicate services already available  
21 in the applicant's service area;

22 (3) address the possibility of and method for making  
23 multiple awards; and

24 (4) include other factors that the executive  
25 commissioner considers relevant.

26 (f) A nonprofit or governmental entity that applies for a  
27 grant under this section must notify each local mental health

1 authority with a local service area that is covered wholly or partly  
2 by the entity's proposed community mental health program and must  
3 provide in the entity's application a letter of support from each  
4 local mental health authority with a local service area that is  
5 covered wholly or partly by the entity's proposed community mental  
6 health program. The commission shall consider a local mental  
7 health authority's written input before awarding a grant under this  
8 section and may take any recommendations made by the authority.

9 (g) The commission shall condition each grant awarded to a  
10 recipient under the program on the recipient obtaining or securing  
11 matching funds from non-state sources in amounts of money or other  
12 consideration as required by Subsection (h).

13 (h) A community that receives a grant under this section is  
14 required to leverage funds in an amount:

15 (1) equal to 50 percent of the grant amount if the  
16 community mental health program is located in a county with a  
17 population of less than 250,000;

18 (2) equal to 100 percent of the grant amount if the  
19 community mental health program is located in a county with a  
20 population of at least 250,000; and

21 (3) equal to the percentage of the grant amount  
22 otherwise required by this subsection for the largest county in  
23 which a community mental health program is located if the community  
24 mental health program is located in more than one county.

25 (i) Except as provided by Subsection (j), from money  
26 appropriated to the commission for each fiscal year to implement  
27 this section, the commission shall reserve 50 percent of that total

1 to be awarded only as grants to a community mental health program  
2 located in a county with a population not greater than 250,000.

3 (j) To the extent money appropriated to the commission to  
4 implement this section for a fiscal year remains available to the  
5 commission after the commission selects grant recipients for the  
6 fiscal year, the commission shall make grants available using the  
7 money remaining for the fiscal year through a competitive request  
8 for proposal process, without regard to the limitation provided by  
9 Subsection (i).

10 (k) Not later than December 1 of each calendar year, the  
11 executive commissioner shall submit to the governor, the lieutenant  
12 governor, and each member of the legislature a report evaluating  
13 the success of the matching grant program created by this section.

14 (l) The executive commissioner shall adopt any rules  
15 necessary to implement the matching grant program under this  
16 section.

17 (m) The commission shall implement a process to better  
18 coordinate all behavioral health grants administered by the  
19 commission in a manner that streamlines the administrative  
20 processes at the commission and decreases the administrative burden  
21 on applicants applying for multiple grants. This may include the  
22 development of a standard application for multiple behavioral  
23 health grants.

24 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect only if a specific  
25 appropriation for the implementation of the Act is provided in a  
26 general appropriations act of the 85th Legislature.

27 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

H.B. No. 13

1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 13 was passed by the House on April 13, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 133, Nays 6, 2 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 13 on May 25, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 138, Nays 7, 1 present, not voting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 13 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 23, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor