

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-005

Establishing the Alignment of Behavioral and Physical Health Programs in a Single Department and Directing the Department of County Human Services to Engage in the Process of Transferring the Mental Health and Addiction Services Division to the Multnomah County Health Department.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. Multnomah County seeks to develop an integrated community health system that achieves better care and better behavioral and physical health outcomes through better care coordination and collaboration for the Medicaid population and the larger community. Aligning the behavioral and physical health programs advances the County's goals associated with health system transformation.
- b. In order to positively impact healthcare outcomes, the community health system must take a holistic approach to patient care which recognizes that the mind and body cannot be separated: symptoms and illness in one impacts the health of the other. Therefore, the integration of Mental Health and Addiction Services Division within the Multnomah County Health Department provides a foundation for improved client outcomes.
- c. Transferring the Mental Health and Addiction Services Division to the Multnomah County Health Department prepares the County for the full implementation of the Affordable Care Act in 2017, by providing a platform from which to build an integrated care model which addresses the whole person.
- d. The County plays a significant role in the planning and management of the publicly funded system of care. As the Local Public Health Authority, the County is required to develop a plan for performing public health services pursuant to ORS 431.375 to 431.385 and 431.416. In addition, as the Local Mental Health Authority, the County is required to determine the local need for mental health services and adopt a comprehensive local plan for the delivery of mental health services. Having these plans developed by staff within a single, integrated department will assist with coordination and integration of the County's health plans.
- e. In performing its various roles in relation to community health, Multnomah County has a number of state and regional partners. The integration of behavioral and physical health services into a single department or program is the standard by which our partners plan and implement health services. The integration of the Mental Health and Addiction Services Division within the Multnomah County

Health Department structurally aligns Multnomah County with what has become the community standard for the planning and implementation of health services.

- f. This structural change improves the County's ability to operate as a member of a coordinated care organization by consolidating the County's two main roles in health system transformation -- that of manager of the Mental Health benefit and as a provider of clinical services -- under one department. In addition, the move strengthens the County's role in the coordinated care organization by consolidating County leadership in one department.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Resolves:

1. Multnomah County will align behavioral and physical health programs within a single Department.
2. The Department of County Human Services will engage in the process of transferring the Mental Health and Addiction Services Division to the Multnomah County Health Department.


ADOPTED this 15th day of January, 2015.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Deborah Kafoury, Chair

REVIEWED:
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By 
Patrick W. Henry, Assistant County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY: Deborah Kafoury, Chair.