

Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) & Law Enforcement and Behavioral Health Partnerships (Co-Responder Services).

Colorado to Implement LEAD and Co-Responder Programs

The Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) will receive \$5,200,000 effective July 1, 2017 to implement four LEAD pilot programs and five to eight law enforcement and behavioral health Co-Responder partnership programs.

Implementation Timeline

OBH intends to utilize a Request for Application (RFA) process to create contracts for LEAD and Co-Responder services. **Eligible applicants shall be city or county government entities.** Below is OBH's planned timeline for implementation of these programs.

RFA announcement release date	7/31/17
RFA applications due	8/31/17
Application review complete and award announcements	10/1/17
Contract execution	11/1/17

LEAD

LEAD is a pre-booking diversion program that aims to improve public health and to end the cycle of recidivism. Instead of being charged and booked following an arrest, the arresting officer identifies the arrestee as a potential participant for the diversion program and subsequently connects them with a case manager. This case manager then provides a holistic approach to connecting the individual with resources such as housing, substance use treatment services, or enrolling the participant in vocational training courses. The main principle of LEAD is collaborative partnerships between local law enforcement, district attorney's offices, sheriffs, treatment providers, and other community stakeholders, and will be a requirement of all LEAD grants.

OBH will contract for up to 4 pilot programs for a three year term. These programs will be evaluated for effectiveness in order to request additional funding.

Co-Responder Programs:

The co-responder model of criminal justice diversion consists of two-person teams comprised of a law enforcement officer and a behavioral health specialist to intervene on mental health-related police calls to de-escalate situations that have historically resulted in arrest and to assess whether the person should be referred for an immediate behavioral health assessment.

OBH will contract for up to 8 programs for a five year term.

For more information, please contact jagruti.shah@state.co.us or call 303-866-7400.