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H.B. No. 13

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the creation of a matching grant program to support
3 community mental health programs for individuals experiencing
4 mental illness.

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

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

8 Sec. 531.0999. GRANT PROGRAM FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

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

14 (b) The commission shall enter into an agreement with a
15 qualified nonprofit or other private entity to serve as the
16 administrator of the matching grant program. The duties of the
17 administrator must include assisting, supporting, and advising the
18 commission in fulfilling the commission's responsibilities with
19 respect to the program. The administrator may advise the
20 commission on:

21 (1) designing, developing, implementing, and managing
22 the program;

23 (2) determining criteria for local community
24 collaboration and the types of services and deliveries eligible for

1 grants;

2 (3) eligibility requirements for grant recipients;

3 (4) designing and managing the competitive bidding
4 processes for applications or proposals and the evaluation and
5 selection of grant recipients;

6 (5) contractual requirements for grant recipients;

7 (6) grant requisites and mechanisms;

8 (7) roles and responsibilities of grant recipients;

9 (8) reporting requirements for grant recipients;

10 (9) support and technical capabilities;

11 (10) timelines and deadlines for the program;

12 (11) evaluation of the program and grant recipients;

13 and

14 (12) requirements for reporting on the program to
15 policy makers.

16 (c) The administrator of the matching grant program shall
17 ensure that each grant recipient obtains or secures contributions
18 to match awarded grants in amounts of money or other consideration
19 as required by Subsection (j). The money or other consideration
20 obtained or secured by the recipient, as determined by the
21 executive commissioner, may include cash or in-kind contributions
22 from any person but may not include money from state or federal
23 funds.

24 (d) Money appropriated to or obtained by the commission for
25 the matching grant program must be disbursed directly to grant
26 recipients by the commission, as authorized by the executive
27 commissioner. Money or other consideration obtained or secured by

1 the administrator must be disbursed or provided directly to grant
2 recipients by the administrator, private contributors, or local
3 governments, as authorized by the executive commissioner.

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

10 (f) The administrator must obtain the commission's approval
11 of the eligibility requirements for grant recipients, the types of
12 services and deliveries eligible for grants, and the requirements
13 for reporting as developed by the administrator before the
14 commission awards a grant under the matching grant program.

15 (g) The commission shall select grant recipients based on
16 the submission of applications or proposals by nonprofit and
17 governmental entities. The executive commissioner shall develop
18 criteria for the evaluation of those applications or proposals and
19 the selection of grant recipients. The selection criteria must:

20 (1) evaluate and score:

21 (A) fiscal controls for the project;

22 (B) project effectiveness;

23 (C) project cost; and

24 (D) an applicant's previous experience with
25 grants and contracts;

26 (2) address the possibility of and method for making
27 multiple awards; and

1 (3) include other factors that the executive
2 commissioner considers relevant.

3 (h) A nonprofit or governmental entity that applies for a
4 grant under this section must notify each local mental health
5 authority with a local service area that is covered wholly or partly
6 by the entity's proposed community mental health program and must
7 provide in the entity's application a letter of support from each
8 local mental health authority with a local service area that is
9 covered wholly or partly by the entity's proposed community mental
10 health program. The commission and the administrator shall
11 consider a local mental health authority's written input before
12 awarding a grant under this section and may take any
13 recommendations made by the authority.

14 (i) The commission shall condition each grant awarded to a
15 recipient under the program on the administrator ensuring that the
16 recipient has obtained or secured matching funds from non-state
17 sources in amounts of money or other consideration as required by
18 Subsection (j).

19 (j) A community that receives a grant under this section is
20 required to leverage funds in an amount:

21 (1) equal to 100 percent of the grant amount if the
22 community mental health program is located in a county with a
23 population of less than 125,000;

24 (2) equal to 115 percent of the grant amount if the
25 community mental health program is located in a county with a
26 population of at least 125,000 and not greater than 250,000;

27 (3) equal to 125 percent of the grant amount if the

1 community mental health program is located in a county with a
2 population of at least 250,000 and not greater than 500,000;

3 (4) equal to 150 percent of the grant amount if the
4 community mental health program is located in a county with a
5 population of at least 500,000 and not greater than one million;

6 (5) equal to 167 percent of the grant amount if the
7 community mental health program is located in a county with a
8 population greater than one million; and

9 (6) equal to the percentage of the grant amount
10 otherwise required by this subsection for the largest county in
11 which a community mental health program is located if the community
12 mental health program is located in more than one county.

13 (k) Except as provided by Subsection (l), from money
14 appropriated to the commission for each fiscal year to implement
15 this section, the commission shall reserve:

16 (1) 25 percent of that total to be awarded only as
17 grants to a community mental health program located in a county with
18 a population not greater than 250,000; and

19 (2) five percent of that total to be awarded only as
20 grants to a community mental health program located in a county with
21 a population not greater than 125,000.

22 (l) To the extent money appropriated to the commission to
23 implement this section for a fiscal year remains available to the
24 commission after the commission selects grant recipients for the
25 fiscal year, the commission shall make grants available using the
26 money remaining for the fiscal year through a competitive request
27 for proposal process, without regard to the limitation provided by

1 Subsection (k).

2 (m) Not later than December 1 of each calendar year, the
3 executive commissioner shall submit to the governor, the lieutenant
4 governor, and each member of the legislature a report evaluating
5 the success of the matching grant program created by this section.

6 (n) The executive commissioner shall adopt any rules
7 necessary to implement the matching grant program under this
8 section.

9 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
13 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.