



April 28, 2009

To: Judge Self, Commissioners Ward, Hoagland, Jaynes and Shaheen

Cc: Monika Arris, Bill Bilyeu, LifePath Trustees

Re: LifePath Systems Request for FY2010 Funding

Attached is LifePath Systems' request for funding from Collin County for 2010. After much discussion, the Board of Trustees voted to ask for additional funding in the amount of \$112,500. While they recognized the impact of this year's economy on the County, it is clear that the demand for LifePath's services has increased due to the economy. **The total amount of funding requested is \$821,625.**

The additional items being proposed for funding are:

#### FUNDING FOR MR WAITING LIST

LifePath works to get as many eligible people as possible into services. Currently there are over 400 Collin County residents with Mental Retardation or Developmental Disabilities waiting for services. The addition of one County funded Service Coordinator would allow us to link 40 of those individuals to existing services in the county thereby decreasing the need for more expensive emergency care or residential placement. Cost is \$40,000.

#### EXPANDING COVERAGE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH:

Create a part time outreach clinic in Wylie and/or Farmersville/Princeton area to provide better access for clients in those areas, increasing their compliance with treatment recommendations. We would plan to co-locate with an existing provider to reduce expenses. Cost is \$19,500.

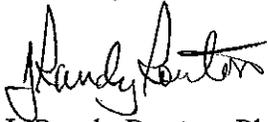
LifePath is potentially merging with Avenues Counseling in the summer of 2009 to ensure the continuation of high quality substance abuse services. Avenues' financial losses in the last year have caused them to stop all adolescent services, and is threatening their survival. The **one time only** cost of start up for adolescent services and to get Avenues operations financially viable would be \$50,000.

#### INCREASE IN ECI LOCAL MATCH

Since 2006, LifePath's ECI program has increased average children served from 649 monthly to 874 in 2010, an increase of 34.6% over 4 years. During that time no funding increases have been requested or allocated from Collin County. LifePath is required to match state and federal dollars with locally raised and earned funds of \$775,000+. We are requesting an increase of \$3,000 (approximately 9% increase or one year's worth of growth in cases).

Thank you for your consideration. We know you have many demands and needs in a growing county and appreciate your attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Randy Routon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

J. Randy Routon, Ph.D.  
Chief Executive Officer

**LifePath Systems**  
**FY2010 Budget Request (Continuation)**

Item	Purpose	Client Benefit	Benefit to County	Performance Measures
<i>MR Services</i>				
<b>Eligibility: Screening and Permanency Planning</b> \$53,120	To screen county residents who are interested in MR services, obtain initial clinical information, and schedule diagnostic and intake services; To monitor residents currently waiting for state HCS service; Complete Permanency Plans for Collin County residents under the age of 22 currently in residential services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide timely information to clients and families about MR services</li> <li>• Facilitate intake into MR Services</li> <li>• Explore options for community placements for children currently in expensive residential services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single source of MR Services information for the entire community</li> <li>• Reduce county and community intervention needed by supporting families in maintaining a family member with a disability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Screening: 254 calls per month</li> <li>• Annual monitoring: 476 per year</li> <li>• Permanency Plans: 20 per year</li> </ul>
<b>Service Coordination</b> \$32,700	Provide case management services to Collin County residents with developmental disabilities and their families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single point of contact for approximately 45 individuals providing an annual plan, information, advocacy and support.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate interaction with community agencies, including schools, police, justice system, etc.</li> <li>• Supports individuals and their families</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serves 45 individuals with significant and complex needs annually</li> <li>• Provides face to face services to a minimum of 27 consumers per month</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>residing in the community</li> <li>Reduces need for residential placement</li> </ul>	
<b>Respite</b> \$131,424	Provides caregivers of individuals with mental retardation with a brief critical respite from those responsibilities for medical, recreational, business or social purposes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helps caregivers to maintain their health and well being so that they can continue to support the individual with developmental disabilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increases the quality and quantity of support provided by the family when there are opportunities for relief</li> <li>Reduces need for residential placement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Respite services ranging from a few hours to several days for 28 clients per month or 336 clients per year</li> </ul>
<b>In Home and Family Support</b> \$69,114	Provides individualized family and client services (e.g., behavior management services, specialized therapies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides necessary treatment and supports that cannot be obtained through other funding mechanisms that are individually designed for the individual.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduces need for residential placement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>46 Collin County residents per year at an average cost of \$1267 per year</li> </ul>
<b>STARR Employment</b> \$108,660	Provides supported employment services to Collin County residents with a developmental disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Client obtains competitive employment in the community</li> <li>Enhances the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Client becomes a contributing member of the community</li> <li>Fewer social</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supported Employment services to approximately 25 individuals per month</li> </ul>

		<p>client's self esteem and sense of independence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contributes to the overall economy</li> </ul>	<p>services required as the client becomes more economically independent</p>	
<p><b>Coordination with Criminal Justice System</b></p> <p>\$17,524 (.3 FTE)</p>	<p>Educates police, sheriff's deputies, other law enforcement and court personnel on access to MR Services, appropriate services, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensures that individuals in the criminal justice system receive appropriate services and supports</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assists the criminal justice system in identifying and linking individuals to the MR Services system, reducing police and courts involvement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide instructors for law enforcement training for a minimum of six sessions per year; provide assistance as requested on cases involving individuals with mental retardation</li> </ul>
<i>MH Services</i>				
<p><b>Retention of Key Staff Providing Medicaid Services at Reduced Rates</b></p> <p>\$94,800</p>	<p>Current salaries are significantly below local and state averages and had not been increased in several years due to low NorthSTAR reimbursements. Maintaining salary increases given in 2007 will decrease staff turnover and maintain the quality of services provided in the MH Division.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuity of care for current clients</li> <li>• No reduction in client services while new staff are recruited and trained</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintains stable resource of experienced psychiatrists and case workers in the community</li> <li>• Reduces demand for local services, such as emergency rooms, jail and court services, local police</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Psychiatrists provide 252 billable services per month</li> <li>• Caseworkers provide 87 hours of billable services per month</li> <li>• Current turnover rate is approximately 3%; average length of time to fill positions is over 2 months</li> </ul>

			departments, etc.	
<p><b>“Above and Beyond” productivity incentives program</b> \$30,200</p>	<p>All caseworkers are required to meet benchmarks in numbers of clients seen, compliance with the state mandated treatment model, etc. Productivity increases are recommended for those caseworkers who <u>significantly exceed</u> those requirements enabling LPS to serve more clients and provide more services with the same number of staff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More timely access to services</li> <li>• Continuity of care for current clients</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintains stable staff of high performing caseworkers in the community</li> <li>• Reduces staff turnover</li> <li>• Increases access for crisis teams, courts, police, probationers and parolees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase billable hours above 100 hours per month</li> <li>• Maintain newly licensed staff for 2 years past licensure</li> </ul>
<p><b>Required TIMA (Texas Implementation of Medication Algorithms) services</b> \$38,500</p>	<p>The TIMA caseworker sees clients prior to a psychiatrist to check vitals (blood pressure, weight, height) and administer symptom scales to collect information for evaluating current treatment protocols. Also provides clients with educational information and materials on diagnosis and medications.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best quality care</li> <li>• Regular monitoring of potential side effects of psychiatric medications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best quality care and reduction of side effects encourages compliance with medications and reduces need for community services, such as police and criminal justice system services, local police</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide TIMA service to approximately 650 clients per month</li> </ul>

			departments, etc.	
<b>Walk In Screening (Routine and Crisis) in McKinney</b> \$73,152	Provide daily walk in screenings in McKinney by a Qualified Mental Health Professionals (QMHP) for individuals with symptoms of mental illness. Individuals will receive necessary crisis services, assistance with NorthStar eligibility, referrals to all appropriate service providers, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rapid access to mental health services in McKinney and northern Collin County for individuals with symptoms of mental illness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decrease use of community based emergency services, such as the hospital, police departments, etc.</li> <li>• Increase access to care in McKinney and northern Collin County</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide services to an average of 200 clients per month at McKinney location</li> </ul>
<b>County Court Mental Liaison Enhancements</b> \$8,700	Provide training, qualified replacement staff during training, computer and small salary enhancement for LifePath psychologist who provides required assessments for the County Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assists families and clients in commitment process by assessing for most appropriate level of court intervention and placement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completes state required assessment for the county court prior to commitment hearing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average 60 contacts per month</li> </ul>
<b>Coordination with Criminal Justice System</b> \$17,524 (.3 FTE)	Provide training on mental illness to law enforcement personnel; Coordinate mental health services for Collin County Adult Probation clients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educates Collin County law enforcement on identifying individuals with mental illness and obtaining appropriate treatment and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assists the criminal justice system in identifying and linking individuals to the MH Services system,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide instructors for law enforcement training for a minimum of six sessions per year;</li> <li>• Meet at least 2 times per month with Collin County Adult Probation staff to</li> </ul>

		<p>support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meets on a regular basis with Collin County Adult Probation staff to coordinate services for specific clients</li> </ul>	<p>reducing police and courts involvement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improves compliance with MH Treatment Plan and successful Probation requirements</li> </ul>	<p>coordinate services</p>
<i>Early Childhood Intervention Services</i>				
<p><b>Child Find and community education programs</b> \$33,707</p>	<p>These funds will ensure that we have a full time Child Find Coordinator in Collin County. We continue to increase our child care screenings, health fair participation, work with county physicians, and educational trainings for parents, physicians, child care providers, etc. The more we are visible to the Collin County community the more families we can provide services to.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Intervention provides immediate and long-term benefits for families and children. The earlier a child can receive supports the more potential that child has for</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links delayed infants and families with effective state/federal-paid services that reduce further taxpayer costs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30 Child Find events per year</li> </ul>

		developmental growth. Funding our Child Find Coordinator position will provide county residents with more access to ECI services.		
--	--	---	--	--

*LifePath Systems*  
**FY 2010 Budget (Additional) Request**

Item	Purpose	Client Benefit	Benefit to County	Performance Measures
<i>MR Services</i>				
Waiting List Reduction \$40,000	Over 400 Collin County residents are eligible and waiting for services from LifePath's network of providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links individuals with all available benefits; ensures safety; identifies and works on highest needs expressed by client and family</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduces admissions to Emergency Rooms, state schools or possible expensive residential placements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40 indigent persons with mental retardation or autism will be enrolled and served by a service coordinator</li> </ul>
<i>MH Services</i>				
Expanded Collin County coverage \$19,500	Residents in the far eastern part of Collin County have less access to mental health services. Funding would place a part time counselor in Wylie or Farmersville area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creates more reasonable access for individuals in need. We can then work on getting those in need of medicine into one of the clinics to better meet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduces the number of indigent individuals with serious mental illnesses who are going without treatment and/or become</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One day per week access in eastern part of county for individuals with serious mental illnesses.</li> </ul>

		their psychiatric needs.	involved with law enforcement	
Continue and expand substance abuse services \$50,000	Residents in the central part of Collin County have depended on Avenues Counseling for substance abuse services. Adolescent services were stopped and adult services are at risk, both due to losses in the NorthSTAR program. LifePath has been in negotiations to merge but will need assistance to cover start up losses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will provide evaluations and treatment to adults and adolescents who are addicted or abusing substances. Many of these individuals have co-occurring mental health problems, and require treatment from a provider with coordinated services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increases the number of substance abusers who can return to and maintain a productive life, including becoming employed tax payers. Increases safety of highways and strengthens families.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>48 adolescents complete program; continuation of Avenues programs for adults at same or higher level</li> </ul>
<i>Early Childhood Intervention Services</i>				
Meeting Growing Population Need \$3,000	Early Childhood Intervention provides therapy for infants and education for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infants with develop delays can best be helped while</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research shows that \$1 spent for ECI saves taxpayers \$3</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Able to meet contracted number of children for year (874)</li> </ul>

	parents of delayed children. Since 2006, the number of infants served has increased from 649 month to 874 a month. This small addition to the required local match helps address children with much higher needs (like those with autism).	they are still very young. Parents get training and education on how to assist their child.	to \$10 in future expenditures by making that child as independent as possible.	
--	--	---	---	--