

## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**Parties:** Collin County  
Collin County MHMR Center, *dba* LifePath Systems

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to identify the agreements, aims, individual responsibilities and mutual commitments of the parties involved in this community collaborative.

### **MISSION AND SCOPE**

Collin County is the county government, managed by an elected Commissioners Court led by the County Judge.

LifePath Systems is the Local Behavioral Health Authority, selected by the Collin County Commissioners and designated by Texas Health and Human Services.

Together the Parties enter into the MOU to mutually address gaps in the community that result in individuals with serious mental illnesses (SMI) being incarcerated rather than receiving necessary treatment and care. The scope of this MOU covers individuals within Collin County and the services provided through or by Collin County Jail, Collin County, LifePath Systems and its provider network.

### **AGREEMENTS**

Both parties agree that individuals with severe mental illnesses (SMI) are too often incarcerated when treatment for their illness is what is most needed for that individual to become a productive citizen. Incarceration is costly to the County and individuals with SMI are often held longer than the average inmate due to their inability to successfully meet the basic criteria for release.

### **AIMS**

The aim of this collaborative is to address the current gaps in the system in our County by 1) enhancing ongoing efforts at jail diversion whenever appropriate, 2) increasing communication between the treatment system and the justice system, and 3) reducing

recidivism through targeted interventions. A primary goal is to get individuals with SMI into the right level of treatment.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Responsibilities of Collin County**

- Enhance communication by office of Mental Health Managed Counsel regarding early identification of possible persons suffering from mental illness;
- Transport individuals to hospitals from jail;
- Provide medical clearance through contracted medical provider;
- Allow internet access by LifePath staff while working in the jail and provide space to contact and plan discharge with identified inmates.

### **Responsibilities of LifePath Systems**

- Dedicate 1.0 FTE Continuity of Care staff for jail diversion efforts;
- Establish contracted community hospital beds (if funded) and process for placement;
- Provide assessment for appropriate placement;
- Provide 1 auto for client transportation to and from outpatient services, from hospitals to lower levels of care, or to court appearances;
- Hire, orient and supervise 3.0 FTE QMHPs for justice-targeted field-based services.

### **Responsibilities of Both Parties**

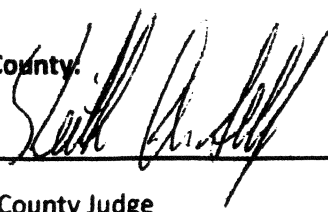
- Will plan, implement and communicate about successes and challenges in jail diversion, treatment options and SMI individuals with multiple incarcerations;
- Establish basic criteria for assignment to treatment options;
- Meet on quarterly basis to revise procedures and address changes and challenges in the program.

## **TERMS OF UNDERSTANDING**

The terms of this MOU is for a period ending November 1, 2018 from the starting date of the latest signature below, and may be extended upon written mutual agreement. It shall be reviewed at least annually to ensure that it is fulfilling its purpose and to make any necessary revisions.

Either party may terminate this MOU upon thirty (30) days written notice.

For Collin County.

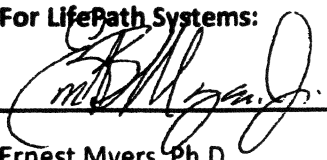


11/8/17

Keith Self, County Judge  
Collin County

date

For LifePath Systems:



11/09/17

Ernest Myers, Ph.D.  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

date