



April 29, 2020

Chris Hill
Collin County Judge
Collin County Commissioners Court
Collin County Administration Building
2300 Bloomdale Rd., Suite 419
McKinney, TX 75071

RE: Request for Federal COVID-19 Response Funds

Collin County Commissioners Court,

As the Local Behavioral Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Authority, Collin County Mental Health Mental Retardation Center dba LifePath Systems is an essential partner in the county's response to the COVID-19 crisis. LifePath is responsible for continuing essential services to a vulnerable population regardless of the status of the pandemic. As a result, we have incurred or plan to incur significant costs related to our COVID-19 response. LifePath therefore requests the Collin County Commissioners Court to direct available COVID-19 specific emergency funds to LifePath in order to assist in this response. We understand that all funds must be spent prior to December 31, 2020.

Outreach

In order to inform the public of the availability of mental health, substance use, and disability services during the pandemic, LifePath needs to increase its outreach to the community. Studies show that during economic downturns such as this, rates of suicide and drug overdose increase dramatically. With increased outreach, LifePath's current Crisis Services, including the Crisis Hotline and Mobile Crisis Outreach Teams, will be able to intervene at an earlier stage and prevent unnecessary loss of life. LifePath proposes:

Type of Outreach	Monthly Cost & # of Months	Total Cost
Community Impact Newspaper Ad	\$3,250 per month x 8 months	\$26,000
Local Newspapers	\$2,000 per month x 8 months	\$16,000
Local Magazines (Plano, Frisco, McKinney, etc)	\$5,000 per month x 8 months	\$40,000
30 second Radio advertisement	\$1,560 per month x 8 months	\$12,480
Crisis Hotline Cards	10,000 @ \$.06 each	\$600

Center Brochures	10,000 @ \$.20 each	\$2,000
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Total = \$97,080

Telehealth Expansion

As a result of the need to physically distance to prevent the spread of COVID-19, LifePath has transitioned the majority of our services to telehealth. Expenses in this effort include:

Type of Equipment/Service	Monthly Cost & # of Months	Total Cost
Zoom or other telehealth platform licenses	\$20 per month x 8 months x 150 licenses	\$24,000
Tablets with Internet Connection – to be loaned out to clients who need telehealth, but do not have resources	50 tablets @ \$19.51/mo for 8 months	\$7,804
Hotspots for staff member home & field access	36 hotspots @ \$10/mo for 8 months	\$2,880
Dell laptops and accessories for use in telehealth delivery	105 units @ \$1,456.21 each	\$152,902
Cameras for use with existing tech	\$120 for 200 cameras	\$24,000
Microphones for use with technology	\$40 for 200 units	\$8,000
Docusign licensing (or other similar platform) to allow for signing of documents during telehealth service	100 licenses @ \$40/mo	\$4,000
Conference phone technology upgrade	\$1,350 x 4 conference rooms	\$5,400

Total = \$228,986

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) & Supplies

LifePath has had to purchase PPE and supplies not normally purchased as a result of our response to COVID-19. We are obtaining supplies necessary to continue to provide essential face to face services while practicing enhanced precautions. Additionally, we are acquiring necessary PPE should one or more individuals served in residential programs begin experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

Description	MONTHLY NEED	PRICE PER	MONTHLY COST	Total for 8 months
Isolation gowns	475	\$1.20	\$570.00	\$4,560
N-95 respirator masks	800	\$5.00	\$4,000.00	\$32,000
Procedure masks	4700	\$1.25	\$5,875.00	\$47,000
Gloves (M)	11300	\$0.13	\$1,469.00	\$11,752
Goggles	55	\$3.50	\$192.50	\$1,540
Face Shield	610	\$5.25	\$3,202.50	\$25,620
Disinfectant Wipes	95	\$6.00	\$570.00	\$4,560
Hand Sanitizer (gal)	6	\$40.00	\$240.00	\$1,920
Lysol Spray	45	\$4.99	\$224.55	\$1,796
Alcohol Prep Pads	10	\$23.00	\$230.00	\$1,840

Thermometers	27	\$140.00	\$3,780.00	\$3,780
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Total = \$136,368

Deep Cleanings of Facilities

In order to maintain a safe work environment for our workforce and individuals served, LifePath has initiated periodic deep cleaning of all of its facilities. Additional deep cleanings may be required in the case of a positive COVID-19 case in our facilities.

Type of Cleaning	Monthly Cost	Total Cost
Monthly deep clean of 6 facilities	\$8,000/mo for 6 months	\$48,000
Additional deep cleaning when suspected positive resident in program	\$1,333 per cleaning for 4 cleanings	\$5,332

Total = \$53,332

Basic Needs for Individuals Served

LifePath has existing procedures for the payment of basic needs for low income individuals served, including rental and utility assistance, groceries, and transportation costs. However, greatly increased needs due to COVID-19 in March and April have exhausted LifePath funds for these expenses. LifePath proposes utilizing the following funds as needed for our over 10,000 active clients:

Type of Basic Need	Monthly Maximum & Total Served	Total Cost
Rental or Mortgage Assistance	Up to \$1,000 per month x 50 people per month x 8 months	\$400,000
Utility Assistance	Up to \$500 per month x 50 people per month x 8 months	\$200,000
Grocery Assistance	Up to \$300 per month x 25 people per month x 8 months	\$60,000
Transportation Expenses	\$50 per month x 25 people per month x 8 months	\$10,000
Other Miscellaneous (diapers, wipes, etc)	\$50 per month x 25 people per month x 8 months	\$10,000

Total = \$680,000

Additional Staffing Expenses Related to COVID-19

LifePath has seen an increase in need for staffing in a variety of areas. While we have tried to reallocate staff from areas where demand has decreased, there are some areas that we are not able to address internally. A significant area of concern is our group homes, where direct care staff are responsible for providing 24 hour a day care for a high risk population. These direct care staff are significantly underpaid due to the low Medicaid rate reimbursement for this service. We propose increasing their wage by \$5 per hour in order to reduce their need to work in multiple facilities, thereby increasing the risk of the spread of COVID-19 for the residents in each home.

Staff Required	Purpose	Monthly Cost	Total Cost
.5 FTE MVPN Coordinator	Increase outreach to active military, veterans, and families to reduce MH and SUD crisis	\$20 per hour x 20 hours a week x 30 weeks	\$12,000
Group Home Direct Care Providers (June 2020 through December 2020)	Increase base hourly pay from \$10/hr to \$15/hr in order to reduce need for staff to hold multiple jobs in multiple group homes – thereby reducing risk of cross contamination.	\$27,500 per month for 7 months	\$192,500
1.0 FTE Supported Employment Staff	Virtual job coaching to 50 individuals with IDD who lost jobs as a result of COVID-19. Will help prepare individuals to re-enter workforce.	\$3,500 per month for 8 months	\$28,000
2.0 FTE Resource Coordinators	To coordinate funds for Basic Needs and to research additional resources	\$3,500 per month x 2 staff x 8 months	\$56,000

Total = \$288,500

Total Funds Requested = \$1,484,266

Summary

LifePath welcomes the opportunity to partner with Collin County to ensure a robust response to the COVID-19 crisis. If there are other ways we can assist, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Tammy Mahan, MA, LPC-S
 Chief Executive Officer
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 McKinney, TX 75069
 972-562-0190 x6101