

AGENDA MEMO

CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 3, 2008

DEPARTMENT: NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Approval of agreement with WestCare Nevada allocating up to \$209,074 of Federal funds from the Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Earmark Program for substance abuse treatment services related to the EVOLVE program All Wards

- The city of Las Vegas was invited February 2008 to submit an application to provide substance abuse treatment, relapse prevention services and comprehensive support services to assist ex-offenders and other hard to serve populations.
- Neighborhood Services submitted a proposal to offer a flexible and comprehensive program which meets the individual needs of its clients, including reintegration and rehabilitation services, which would increase the success rate of clients who return to the community as contributing members.
- The underlying goal of this project is to prepare clients for self-sufficiency, therefore, funding received under this grant will be used for substance abuse treatment, case management services, support services, relapse prevention and job placement activities.
- The long term outcomes of this project are to assist with sobriety and rehabilitation; assist clients with achieving self-sufficiency and stability; reduce criminal involvement (lower recidivism); decrease public nuisance; reduce jail cost; and reduce the incidence of homelessness.
- The program plans to serve 100 clients. The target population is ex-offenders and other hard-to-serve populations over the age of 18 that has been involved in the criminal justice system, unemployed/under-employed, low-income or no income, may have been diagnosed with a substance abuse addiction, and may be homeless.
- On September 1, 2008, the Department of Health and Human Services issued a Notice of Award to the city of Las Vegas EVOLVE program to administer the aforementioned program.
- For the purpose of this grant application, WestCare Nevada, Inc., a previous SAMHSA grant recipient, will provide substance abuse and addiction treatment services.
- WestCare is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit behavioral health substance abuse treatment agency founded in 1973 and has been providing a full continuum of substance abuse and addiction treatment services for 34 years. Westcare specializes in serving those historically considered difficult to treat, such as those who are indigent, have multiple disorders or are involved with the criminal justice system.