

JEFFERSON - BLOUNT - ST. CLAIR MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

940 Montclair Road Suite 200 Birmingham, Alabama 35213 www.jbsmha.com
Telephone: (205) 595-4555 Voice Mail: (205) 380-6460 Fax: (205) 592-3539 TDD: 1-800-545-1833 ext. 516

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April 29, 2019

City Hall

Teri St. James, Chief Financial Officer

1905 First Avenue North

Pell City, AL 35125

Dear Ms. St. James:

Enclosed please find our budget request for Fiscal Year 2020, outlining the funding needs of the agencies and programs for whom the Jefferson-Blount-St. Clair Mental Health Authority is requesting local funding. Please note that the total amount of local support needed from all of the region's local governments is \$947,361. The appropriation desired from the City of Pell City is **\$10,500**.

Your contributions in the past have made a tremendous difference in the lives of the clients we serve. In combination with state, federal, and other local allocations, your funds have provided the following to 501 Pell City residents in the past year:

- Inpatient crisis stabilization services for uninsured mentally ill persons,
- Medications and outpatient therapy for citizens with mental illness,
- A place to live and receive treatment for community members with mental illness,
- In-home therapy to prevent at-risk youth from being removed from their homes,
- Case management to access housing and other supports to avoid unnecessary admissions to state hospitals,
- Social work assistance to families coming to the probate court seeking treatment for relatives.

Local funds are one of the most important resources to our system of care because they provide flexibility in their use. This flexibility allows our system to fill gaps in funding sometimes left as a result of designated state and federal funding of services. These funds also provide matching funds so that we can draw down federal funds.

Without the support of the City of Pell City, our system would not be able to provide many of the services so crucial to the mental health needs of our community. For the upcoming fiscal year, we are asking the City of Pell City to consider appropriating our agency **\$10,500**. This amount is equal to a return to the funding level provided in fiscal years 2011-2017.

Board of Directors composed of three appointees each from:

Bessemer - Birmingham - Blount County - Fairfield - Gardendale - Homewood - Hueytown
Jefferson County - Leeds - Mountain Brook - Oneonta - Pell City - St. Clair County - Tarrant - Vestavia Hills

This agency has a long tradition of serving persons with the most serious mental illnesses who have little or no health care funding, and who depend upon us for their mental health care. We serve a high percentage of persons below the poverty level, a high percentage of minorities, and thousands of people who cannot access services any other way. Our system served over 12,000 of these clients last fiscal year.

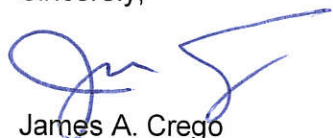
Services specific to Pell City and St. Clair County include the following:

<u>DESCRIPTION/LOCATION</u>	<u>SERVICES</u>
Eastside Mental Health Center 15 th Street North, Pell City	Outpatient Clinic for adults and children suffering from mental illness
Greenwood Apartments 15 th Street North, Pell City	Independent living apartment complex for mentally ill adults
Sam Jones Residential Group Home 7 th Avenue North, Pell City	Fully staffed community housing for 10 adults suffering from a mental illness
St Clair County Court Liaison	Works directly with District Court Judge Alan Furr accessing and implementing mental health services for emotionally and Behaviorally disturbed children and their families.
St. Clair County DHR Outpatient Therapists (2)	Provides mental health assessments, crisis intervention and therapy to residents of St Clair County.
St. Clair County Case Managers (3) 1 Adult Services Case Manager 2 Children Services Case Managers	Assist families in locating and accessing community services. Case Managers also monitor consumers' progress while community services are being utilized.
St. Clair In-Home Intervention Team	2-person team providing intensive in-home services to children who due to their behavior and/or mental health issues are at risk for out of home placement.
St. Clair County Board of Education Odenville Schools	3-person team providing evaluations, consultations and counseling on anger and behavior management.
Pell City Board of Education	One master's level therapist working full-time at the Pell City Board of Education providing counseling, social skills training and behavior management for students in grades K-6.

Enclosed is a description of all the services provided for by local funds. You can see that none of these services are "luxury" items, but are services that recipients vitally need to return to and remain as functioning members of our community.

On behalf of the clients we serve, we would like to thank you for your careful consideration of this request and for your past and continued support of our clients and programs. We would very much welcome you and others from your office as our guest for a tour of our Sam Jones group home and other facilities to further acquaint you with our programs and services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'James A. Crego', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

James A. Crego
Controller/Associate Director

Enc: Description of Local Services
History of Clients Served and Funding