

**8.25.16 MIDD Oversight Committee Meeting
Strategy Revision Mobile Crisis Team (10b/CD-06)**

REVISION SUMMARY:

- Revise the requirement for chemical dependency professional/chemical dependency professional trainee (CDP/T) *certification* for the Mobile Crisis Team (MCT) to having CDP/T as *preferred qualifications*.
- Minimum qualifications for the MCT would be to *participate in training and receive supervision in the field of substance use disorders*.

BACKGROUND:

This strategy was originally conceived with CDP/T certification as a requirement. The RFP for MCT staff stated:

2.0 FTE Licensed Mental Health Professionals (MHP) on duty at all times to cover 24/7 operations with the capacity to conduct outreach visits to the community to assist people in behavioral crisis. MHPs will also have professional certification in the field of chemical dependency, or be willing to become certified within two years of employment and provide evidence of working toward CDP certification.

BASIS OF CHANGE:

- Request originates from the contracted provider (DESC) for the Crisis Solutions Center.
- Process and costs for MCT staff to obtain CDP/CDP Trainee certification has resulted in difficulty hiring and retaining staff in the position, generating many vacancies on the teams.
- Certification requirements for the CDP/T require staff to perform functions outside of their current job description (i.e. assessments, group and individual counseling sessions, etc.) keeping them from field response.
- Although reimbursement is available for the courses, it is a financial burden for the MCT staff to front the cost of the courses and then seek reimbursement after completion.

FUNDING IMPACT

NONE

EVALUATION IMPACT

NONE

REVIEW AND APPROVAL

- Reviewed and approved by Behavioral Health Recovery Division (BHRD) Director
- Reviewed and approved by MIDD Crisis Diversion Services Subcommittee

NEXT STEPS

- The change would take place immediately upon approval, and would include updates to job descriptions and position postings.
- DESC chemical dependency supervisors determine core classes or trainings required; provide training and supervision clinical approach for responding to individuals who have co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders; design training curriculum would include weekly supervision to ensure the MCT staff are learning and incorporating the information into diagnostic skills
- Referring partners will be provided with information on staff qualifications during roll calls and training presentations and provided to the King County Police Chiefs Association, the King County Fire Chiefs Association, the Crisis Clinic, and the DMHPs as referral and stakeholder partners for the MCT