



Board of Commissioners Resolution

B2020-203

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-83506

Sponsor: Community Corrections

Meeting Date: 10/20/2020

Item Number: 2020-422

Title: Joint Powers Agreement with State of Minnesota, Department of Corrections to Provide Supervision Services for Offenders referred to Ramsey County Community Corrections for Supervised Release or Intensive Supervised Release.

Background:

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, the State of Minnesota, Department of Corrections (DOC), has begun releasing clients early from their confinement in Minnesota Correctional Facilities for the safety of the entire incarcerated population. The DOC was awarded Federal CARES Act funding to support Community Corrections Act agencies in assisting the DOC with supervision of these early-released clients. Ramsey County Community Corrections was made aware of these funds by the DOC in early September, 2020. The goal of this expansion of early release is to better manage and minimize the risk of the spread of the COVID-19 inside Minnesota Correctional Facilities.

Through September of 2020, Ramsey County Supervised Release (SR) and Intensive Supervised Release (ISR) have received approximately 30 clients that would not have been released to the community prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. In Ramsey County, this constitutes a full-time caseload for this population of high-risk clients. Ramsey County has been asked to provide supervision for these clients without additional assistance and has adapted to the request by using existing internal resources. Each client has additional needs for resources and programming not available in the Department of Corrections. Ramsey County is offering these additional resources to clients without corresponding financial support from the DOC.

Some of the clients referred by the State will be clients diagnosed with COVID-19 and will be designated as Early Work Release clients. Most clients, however, will fall into the category of COVID-19 Conditional Medical Release clients; clients having other medical issues that lead to their early release. The State will pay Ramsey County Community Corrections per-day, per-client released to SR \$6.94 and \$18.52 per-day per-client released to ISR under the terms of the Agreement.

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Approve the Joint Powers Agreement with the State of Minnesota, Department of Corrections for supervision of early released offenders from Minnesota Correctional Facilities to Supervised Release due to the Coronavirus Pandemic for the period of July 1, 2020 or the date the State obtains all required signatures, whichever is later through December 30, 2020, or until all obligations have been satisfactorily fulfilled, whichever occurs first, at the reimbursement rate of \$6.94 per day per offender under Supervised Release and \$18.52 per day per offender under Intensive Supervised Release in the not-to-exceed amount of \$35,624.43.
2. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the agreement.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Reinhardt, seconded by Commissioner MatasCastillo. Ayes – 7: Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, Reinhardt, Carter. Motion passed.

By: _____
Janet M. Guthrie, Chief Clerk – County Board