



8/13/2024

McHenry County Mental Health Board,

Thank you for supporting Thresholds McHenry County clients gain access to services. Our non-Medicaid clients have received lifesaving clinical outreach services through our MHB Non-Medicaid FFS grant for many years. At the time of annual grant application, we project utilization for the following year based on historical data. After reviewing our current spending of the FY24 grant, we identified we will exhaust our grant award much earlier in the fiscal year than anticipated. As of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, we billed 66.4% of the total FY24 FFS grant of 415K. We expect to reach the grant's capacity by September based on our monthly projected spending. There are multiple factors contributing to the overutilization of the grant which I outlined below.

- When we submitted our FY24 application, we projected that we would serve 100 clients that would require support from the Non-Medicaid FFS grant. As of July 31<sup>st</sup>, we have already served 124 clients using the grant. This number will likely increase significantly before the end of the fiscal year, as we continue to receive referrals for individuals in need of outreach services that do not have Medicaid.
- During the pandemic, many of our clients were able to receive Medicaid benefits due to DHS relaxing the eligibility requirements. Over the last year, post-pandemic redeterminations have disqualified these same clients, leaving them ineligible for benefits.
- DMH community-based behavioral health service rates were increased in FY24.
- Over two-thirds of the clients receiving services on this grant are receiving intensive outreach services (CST and ACT) which are a higher rate of reimbursement.
- We built multiple new care coordination partnerships through our CCBHC, resulting in an increase in referrals.

Given this information, we submit for your consideration a request for additional funding for this fiscal year. Specifically, we are requesting \$136,140.00, which would cover the projected costs for the services we anticipate rendering to individuals without Medicaid for the remaining part of the year. We understand this is a large ask and will be grateful for any additional support the board can provide.

To avoid significant overutilization of this grant in the future, we made a larger funding request on our FY25 Non-Medicaid FFS application. Over the next year, we anticipate that our program will rapidly grow to meet the need for behavioral health services in our community. Additionally, we will continue to provide services to existing clients and new referrals regardless of the funding gap given our CCBHC designation and commitment to McHenry County.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Anneliese Thurston, MA LCPC  
Area Director  
Thresholds McHenry County