

Circle Park Behavioral Health Budget Request for 2023-24 FY - \$800,000 Total

\$300,000 Chrysalis Center

- Infrastructure needs to address the increased demands on staff and resources to provide services to an increasingly challenging population.
- Nearly 70% of admissions are to pregnant women or those in the first year of post-partum and 50% of admissions are at a 3.7 level of care.
- The Chrysalis Center's onsite childcare is also threatened by the reduced available reimbursement of services for children due to MCO's and Medicaid reimbursements being reduced or no longer being available in many circumstances.
- The nature of the women's admissions also requires an increased and a higher level of medical care due to pregnancy, infant care and increased psychological and behavioral issues. Maintaining on-site medical services is critical.
- These issues have been exacerbated by the COVID 19 pandemic and the strain that it has placed on current staff and resources.

\$250,000 – Lake City Satellite office

- The lower Florence County area to include Lake City, Scranton, Coward, Olanta and Johnsonville are extremely rural areas of Florence County and have been particularly hard hit by the opioid, heroin, fentanyl and meth crisis.
- Transportation and distance to services in Florence is a major barrier and by providing substance abuse services in Lake City, we can greatly increase the availability of individual and group counseling, peer support and critically needed Medication Assisted Treatment services.
- This satellite office of Circle Park BHS would include at a minimum 2 counselors, an admin staff person and a community prevention specialist.
- The request would include the provision of staff as well as funding for office location and utilities annually.

\$100,000

- One of the most effective approaches to reduce the impact of opioids and other substance abuse issues is an aggressive community education and media awareness strategy.
- Circle Park BHS will conduct a year-round media campaign to include the use of billboards, radio, print, social media and event sponsorships to disseminate information to the community about the risk involved with substance use and the available services in the community to provide support services to those suffering from substance abuse issues.

\$150,000

- Those seeking services for substance abuse, particularly those dealing with opioid, heroin, fentanyl, and meth issues, often do not have a reliable pay source such as Medicaid or insurance, therefore rendering services to this critical population challenging for both parties.
- Patients without reimbursement puts a tremendous financial strain on the overall provision of services. The funding of \$150,000 would be used to draw down for the provision of treatment services at CPBHS outpatient facility, the Medication Assisted Treatment program and the Chrysalis Center. This would also reduce the financial strain of the unexpected reduction in DAODAS block grant dollars of \$104,000 for FY22. This was a 20% cut in funding that directly influences the agency's ability to provide its full cadre of services.
- This would ensure that anyone seeking services for substance abuse issues could be seen regardless of their financial challenges and receive the full array of ongoing services.