

***Why is the amount of money dedicated to demonstration sites a small percent of the funding request?***

One of the main goals of the Integration Demonstrations is to consolidate all available funding sources for services into one management entity. The Demonstrations will have **all** available funding for their area, including the FCHP, MHO and county financial agreement funding. The management entity would cover all ongoing management costs with those funds.

The \$485,000 *Demonstration Staff and Start-up Costs* line item is for additional start-up costs exceeding the current administrative funds. Start-up costs of the management entity that are specific to getting the demonstration started would be covered by this line item. The amount the work, and responsibilities to be included in this line item would result from negotiation between the implementing management entity and DHS.

The *Central Support* line item includes new staff assigned to actively partner with and manage the demonstration projects. They will work closely with and provide technical assistance, problem solving and “barrier-busting” for the management entities to insure that the projects can meet their goals.

The *Data Evaluation* line includes new positions dedicated to working with the demonstration sites to develop data gathering processes, provide data for an independent evaluation, and work with the sites to develop a new real time data system. The second part of data evaluation item is contracting with an outside project evaluation firm to provide an independent evaluation of the demonstration projects.

Additionally, AMH is requesting the necessary funding to purchase an “off-the-shelf” system that will allow AMH and the Demonstration sites to gather the needed data to effectively manage and evaluate the demonstrations. No system on the market will automatically meet the needs of the project. The *O/S* line item includes staff to adapt the system and provide training and ongoing support. We cannot continue to force an antiquated data system to meet the demands of today.

**The amount in the budget for "Consumer Investment" does not look to be adequate support for peer programs in the demonstration sites.**

The additional \$125,000 for consumer investment is not intended to fund consumer and peer support programs or services. Rather this funding is to support the development or strengthening of consumer involvement in the policy development, operations and evaluation and monitoring of the new entities. Consumer and family involvement is a necessary component in all levels of systems work. It is imperative that consumers of services and families play a directing role in their own recovery and feel committed to their own well-being.

AMH expects demonstration sites to fully utilize peer run program and peer supports in their programs. We also expect these demonstration sites to adequately compensate paid peer coordinators, contractors and service providers.

**We have identified other materials or research that we believe would be useful. How can we have that posted on AMH's Integration Demonstration website?**

Please submit any links or documents you think would be helpful through the on-line email address. AMH will review the materials to ensure they do not violate state policies and will post them to the site if we are able.