

RESOLUTION NO. 2015- 77

A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF A LOCAL DETOXIFICATION PROGRAM AND FACILITY; REQUESTING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE CONTINUE THE APPROPRIATION OF \$1.3 MILLION IN RECURRING FUNDS TO OPERATE THE ST. JOHNS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE DETOXIFICATION PROGRAM.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office contracted EPIC Behavioral Healthcare to open and operate a detoxification program utilizing funds allocated by the Florida legislature. EPIC, a non-profit behavioral health care business, has been the lead agency for substance abuse services locally since 1973; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2014 the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office Detoxification Program, now operating as EPIC Recovery Center, opened offering four levels of addiction treatment: Substance Abuse Medical Detoxification (12 beds), Substance Abuse Residential Treatment -Level 1 (4 beds), Substance Abuse Outpatient Treatment for continuing care after discharge from Detoxification or Residential Treatment, and Medication Management for those individuals who were diagnosed with a co-occurring mental health disorder while in detox or residential treatment; and

WHEREAS, since opening the EPIC Recovery Center has served 653 adults from St. Johns County and surrounding Northeast Florida counties; and

WHEREAS, approximately 30% of referrals have been from Flagler Hospital as a direct emergency room diversion and 10% were from various law enforcement agencies in lieu of individuals being placed under protective custody. Other referrals were from healthcare professionals, social service agencies, family members or by individuals themselves; and

WHEREAS, since the EPIC Recovery Center has opened, it has saved the community hundreds of thousands of dollars in health care and criminal justice related costs; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of St. Johns County residents to have access to a local detoxification program, as to not place an undue burden on emergency rooms and jails; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has agreed to provide necessary financial support to meet the local match requirement posed by the budget appropriation in FY2015; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners is requesting the Florida Legislature continue to appropriate \$1.3 million in recurring funds to operate the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office Detoxification Program.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY:

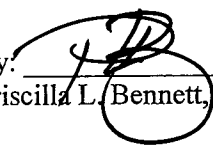
Section 1. The above recitals are incorporated by reference into the body of this Resolution and such recitals are adopted as findings of fact.

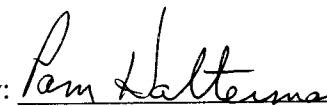
Section 2. The Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County authorizes the County Administrator, or his designee, to request the Florida Legislature restore the \$1.3 million in recurring funds previously allocated for the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office Detoxification Program.

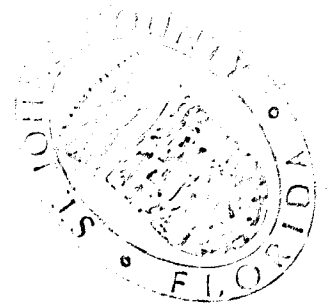
Section 3. To the extent that there are typographical and/or administrative errors and/or omissions that do not change the tone, tenor, or context of this Resolution, then this Resolution may be revised, without subsequent approval of the Board of County Commissioners.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, State of Florida, this 7 day of April 2015.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: 
Priscilla L. Bennett, Chair

By: 
ATTEST: Cheryl Strickland, Clerk



RENDITION DATE 4/7/15