





State of Texas

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County of Polk

Supporting Burke Center Request for State Funding to Create a Regional Emergency Psychiatric Service

WHEREAS the County Commissioners' Court of Polk County recognizes that the lack of emergency treatment for mental health patients is a major health need; and

WHEREAS local law enforcement personnel, including Sheriff's deputies, spend numerous hours each month responding to calls involving persons with mental illness; and

WHEREAS law enforcement must transport these patients to local emergency rooms, guard them during required examinations, and then transport them to psychiatric facilities out of region, including Rusk State Hospital; and

WHEREAS these activities are conducted at county expense and consume resources that could be used for other county purposes; and

WHEREAS the lack of emergency psychiatric services present a hardship to persons in need of care and a burden on county government;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Commissioners' Court of Polk County endorses the funding request by Burke Center to the Texas Department of State Health Services to create an Emergency Psychiatric Service for the region and pledges to provide \$18,252 in required local match each year if the grant request is funded.

READ AND APPROVED the 12th day of February, 2008,

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John P. Thompson, County Judge

ATTEST:

Polk County Clerk





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