



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Behavioral Wellness
Department No.: 043
For Agenda Of: June 2, 2020
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Alice Gleghorn, PhD, Director
Director(s) Department of Behavioral Wellness, (805) 681-5220
Contact Info: Dr. Ole Behrendtsen, Medical Director
Behavioral Wellness, (805) 681-5220
SUBJECT: Behavioral Wellness Staffing Contract Renewals FY 2020-2022 -
LocumTenens.com LLC and Traditions Behavioral Health, Inc.

County Counsel Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute a multi-year Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with **LocumTenens.com, LLC** (not a local vendor) for the provision of locum tenens psychiatry services for FY 20-21, for a total contract maximum amount not to exceed **\$1,800,000** inclusive of \$900,000 annually for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022;
- B. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute a multiyear Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with **Traditions Psychology Group, Inc., dba Traditions Behavioral Health** (not a local vendor) for the provision of locum tenens psychiatry services, for a total contract maximum amount not to exceed **\$3,344,000** inclusive of \$1,672,000 annually for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022;
- C. Approve and authorize the Behavioral Wellness Director (or designee) to amend the agreements for immaterial changes without returning to the Board with a separate amendment, subject to the Board's authority to rescind this delegated authority at any time; and

- D. Determine that the above actions are government fiscal activities or funding mechanisms which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in potentially physical impact on the environment, and are therefore not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA Guidelines.

Summary Text:

The above-referenced items are on the agenda to request approval for authorization for the Behavioral Wellness (BeWell) Director to renew for FY 2020-2022 the following contracts: LocumTenens.com, LLC, for total contract maximum not to exceed \$1,800,000, and Traditions Psychology Group, Inc., dba Traditions Behavioral Health (“TBH”) for \$3,334,000 for the period of July, 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022, and to authorize the Behavioral Wellness Director to make immaterial changes as needed. In addition, approval of the recommended actions will allow BeWell to task LocumTenens.com and TBH to refer professionals who can provide mandated and greatly needed psychiatry services for acute inpatient, outpatient, and crisis service of the system of care.

Background:

BeWell provides a continuum of mental health and substance use disorder services to Santa Barbara County residents, including psychiatric and nursing services at its County facilities. Across the nation there is an ongoing shortage of psychiatric and nursing services. BeWell has experienced ongoing challenges that mirrors the national challenges of attracting and retaining qualified psychiatrists to work at BeWell facilities. BeWell currently uses locum tenens temporary physicians to fill ongoing needs for psychiatric staff at outpatient facilities. Locums provides mandated psychiatric services such as diagnostic evaluations; medication evaluations; prescriptions for psychiatric medications; review, revision, and approval of client assessments; and participation in the development, review, revision, and approval of client treatment plans.

Locumtenens provides temporary psychiatrists, nurse practitioners, and physician’s assistants to Behavioral Wellness clinics and other Behavioral Wellness programs, as needed.

Traditions Behavioral Health provides an alternative to temporary psychiatry services provided by locum tenens staffing arrangements by offering long-term placement of highly qualified psychiatrists.

Performance Outcomes

To date for FY 19-20, BeWell has utilized five (5) professionals consisting of Nurse Practitioners, Psychiatric Nurses, and a Psychiatrist utilizing the providers which consists of two (2) from LocumTenens and three (3) from TBH. They are providing services throughout the County at various programs ranging from adults’ and children’s services to Mobile Crisis and the ACT program. The staffing professionals are all performing on par with the County’s civil service providers. They provide services according to generally accepted practices, participate in medical staff meetings, are part of medical staff meeting peer review, and respond appropriately to communications and clinical feedback.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY 20-21</u>		<u>Total FY 21-22</u>	
	<u>Cost</u>		<u>Cost</u>	<u>Total FY 21-22</u>
General Fund				
State	\$ 1,286,000	\$	1,286,000.00	\$ 2,572,000
Federal	\$ 1,286,000	\$	1,286,000.00	\$ 2,572,000
Fees				
Other:				
Total	\$ 2,572,000	\$	2,572,000	\$ 5,144,000

Narrative: The above-referenced contracts are funded by State and Federal funds. The funding sources are included in the FY 2020-2021 Proposed Budget and will be included on the FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget.

Key Contract Risks:

With any contractor providing temporary staffing services, there is a risk that temporary personnel will make errors, engage in misconduct, or be negligent in the performance of assigned duties. BeWell may cancel an assignment for cause or convenience. Additionally, the contractors provide Professional Liability insurance for the professionals to mitigate these risks. The County pays only the contractors' fees when we utilize a healthcare professional referred by the contractor; there are no monthly fees attached to these agreements.

Special Instructions:

Please return one (1) Minute Order and one (1) complete copy of each of the above contracts to dmorales@co.santa-barbara.ca.us and one (1) to bwellcontractsstaff@co.santa-barbara.ca.us.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: LocumTenens FY 20-22 BC
- Attachment B: Traditions Behavioral Health FY 20-22 BC

Authored by:

D. Morales