



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

Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: Behavioral Wellness
Department No.: 043
Agenda Date: June 10, 2025
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director: Antonette Navarro, LMFT, Director
Department of Behavioral Wellness
Contact: Dr. Ole Behrendtsen, Medical Director
Department of Behavioral Wellness
SUBJECT: First Amendment to the Services Agreement with LocumTenens.com LLC. for
Mental Health Staffing Services for Fiscal Year 2024–25

Initial
KC

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute a First Amendment to the Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor (BC No. 24-024) with **LocumTenens.com LLC** (LocumTenens.com) (not a local vendor) to increase the contract amount by **\$100,000** due to an increased need for temporary staffing services for a revised, total maximum contract amount not to exceed **\$1,800,000** with no change to the contract term of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025; and
- Determine that the above-recommended action is not a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(4), finding that the action is a governmental funding mechanism and/or fiscal activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to request that the Board of Supervisors approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute the First Amendment to the Agreement with LocumTenens.com LLC. ("LocumTenens.com") (BC No. 24-024). LocumTenens.com provides locum tenens clinical staffing services to County of Santa Barbara Department of Behavioral Wellness ("BWell") members. This

First Amendment is requested to increase the total contract maximum by \$100,000 to a new contract maximum amount of \$1,800,000 for FY 2024-25, with no change to the contract term. The increase in funding will allow BWell to continue to provide continuity of staffing for these locally hard-to-source staff.

Discussion

Across the nation there is an ongoing shortage of psychiatric and nursing services. BWell has experienced ongoing challenges that mirror the national challenges of attracting and retaining qualified psychiatric professionals to work at our facilities. BWell currently uses LocumTenens.com’s temporary medical professionals as needed to temporarily fill needed positions to perform mandated mental health and ancillary services at our inpatient and outpatient facilities.

Approval of the recommended actions will allow BWell to adequately staff facilities temporarily to deliver uninterrupted care and mandated mental health and ancillary services.

Background:

BWell 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.

LocumTenens.com provides temporary medical staff, also called locum tenens staff including, but not limited to, psychiatrists providing inpatient services, services in BWell’s Crisis Residential Treatment Centers, as well as Outpatient services. LocumTenens.com also provides locum tenens nurse practitioners and physician’s assistants to other BWell programs as needed.

In June 2024, the County of Santa Barbara entered into a renewal Agreement with LocumTenens.com for the provision of locum tenens clinical staffing services for a total maximum contract amount of \$1,700,000, for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. (BC #24-024) (Attachment B).

Performance Measure:

Behavioral Wellness is currently utilizing professionals provided by LocumTenens.com. These staffing professionals are providing services throughout the County at BWell clinics and other BWell programs. 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:

Budget Action: None

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding will come from Medi-Cal Patient Revenue and Mental Health Services Act sources that will be utilized to pay for temporary staffing throughout County operated clinics, whenever there are staffing shortages or staff on leave.

Funding Source	FY 24-25	Total
State	\$900,000	\$900,000
Federal	\$900,000	\$900,000
Total	\$1,800,000	\$1,800,000

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Special Instructions:

Please return one (1) Minute Order and one (1) copy of the executed Amendment to Chris Shorb at cshorb@sbcbswell.org and to the BWell Contracts Division at bwellcontractsstaff@sbcbswell.org.

Attachments:

Attachment A – LocumTenens.com FY 24-25 (BC 24-024) Amendment 1

Attachment B – LocumTenens.com FY 24-25 (BC 24-024)

Authorized by:

C. Shorb
Contract Analyst
cshorb@sbcbswell.org