



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS **Agenda Number:**
AGENDA LETTER

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: March 9, 2021
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Alice Gleghorn, Ph.D., Director
Director(s) Department of Behavioral Wellness 681-5220
Contact Info: Lindsay Walter, J.D., Administration & Operations
Department of Behavioral Wellness 681-5236
SUBJECT: Behavioral Wellness - Early Psychosis Intervention Grant Award

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:

- A. Approve and authorize the Director of the Department of Behavioral Wellness to execute the multi-year grant agreement (No. 19MHSOAC089) with the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC), and to execute any subsequent reports or amendments to the agreement that do not change the maximum amount or substantive terms of the agreement, for the Early Psychosis Intervention Plus Program for youth in the amount of \$2,000,000 for a four-year period from the date of execution of the agreement through 2/28/2025; and
- B. 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 a potentially significant 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:

This item is on the agenda to request that the Board approve and authorize the Director of the Department of Behavioral Wellness (BWell) to execute the multi-year grant agreement with the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC), for the Early Psychosis Intervention (EPI Plus) Program for youth. The \$2 million-dollar grant award over a four-year period will allow BWell to expand current EPI services and establish Coordinated Specialty Care (CSC) programs serving youth throughout Santa Barbara County.

Background:

On August 27, 2020, BWell was awarded a \$2 million-dollar, four-year grant from the MHSOAC. Assembly Bill 1315 (Mullin) established the EPI Plus Program and the EPI Plus Advisory Committee to advise MHSOAC regarding the allocation of funds for a competitive selection process to expand the provision of high-quality, evidence-based early psychosis and mood disorder detection and intervention services in the state.

In the United States, evidence-based treatment approaches include the following:

- Broad community-based outreach with rapid referral to reduce duration of untreated psychosis
- Comprehensive assessment to determine eligibility
- Team-based Coordinated Specialty Care (CSC)

Program components of CSC include:

- Case management
- Recovery-oriented psychotherapy and relapse prevention
- Family psychoeducation and psychotherapy
- Educational and vocational support
- Pharmacotherapy and primary care coordination

The four-year, \$2 million grant funding includes access to Technical Assistance to assist BWell with the transition of our current EPI program into a CSC program implemented and sustained with fidelity to the model. The CSC model seeks to improve the lives of transitional-aged youth with mental health needs before escalation of symptoms to the level of severe or disability while decreasing the duration of untreated psychosis and mood disorders.

As a grant recipient, the programs goals are targeted to promote the expansion of Coordinated Specialty Care Clinics (CSC) as the primary method for delivering high-quality, integrated care to youth ages 16 to 25 who may be experiencing a first episode of psychosis throughout the state of California. A key strategy for positive outcomes includes reduction of time between onset of symptoms and receiving treatment. Therefore, access to early intervention mental health services within a system of care is essential to achieving improved outcomes for youth experiencing episodes of psychosis or mood disorder.

Following the CSC model with fidelity will allow BWell staff to identify and address the unique needs of each participant through a shared decision-making approach. Individuals and their families will be supported through a team-based structure of support which provides a full continuum of services to assist in their recovery. By implementing this whole person approach, clients and their support systems

will be engaged throughout the treatment process leading to an increase in long-term positive outcomes, including allowing clients to obtain life goals they set before experiencing mental health challenges.

The grant agreement requires that the use of local funds listed in the grant application that are committed to support the program and that the County must continue to provide service under the program through local contributions after grant funding is expended. Match funds are a total of \$1,839,909 consisting of Medi-Cal Reimbursements, local funds and private funds. Once grant funding is expended BWell will evaluate program outcomes and successes in order to continue funding with Mental Health Services Act and Medi-Cal revenues as available.

Performance Measure:

Counties must report to MHSOAC about the disposition of funds, the services provided, and the number of individuals who received services within 60 days of execution of the MHSOAC's contract, on a quarterly basis, and provide an annual report to measure the goals of:

- Improve the lives of Californians with mental health needs before those needs escalate and become severe or disabling.
- Support a more coordinated effort to decrease the duration of untreated psychosis and mood disorder.
- Expand service capacity for early psychosis and mood disorder detection and intervention services in California.
- Conduct broad community-based outreach to individuals at clinical high risk (CHR) for psychosis with rapid referral to reduce duration of untreated psychosis
- Develop and maintain a team-based Coordinated Specialty Care (CSC) program with the following components:
 - Case management
 - Recovery-oriented psychotherapy and relapse prevention
 - Family psychoeducation and psychotherapy
 - Educational and vocational support
 - Pharmacotherapy and primary care coordination
- Expand the number of stand-alone Early Psychosis (EP) programs or alternative programs supported by a stand-alone program.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes, for fiscal year 2021 through 2022.

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>FY 20-21 Cost:</u>	<u>FY 21-22 Cost:</u>	<u>FY 22-23 Cost:</u>	<u>FY 23-25 Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost for FY 20-25:</u>
General Fund					
State	\$ 401,816	\$ 532,280	\$ 532,280	\$ 533,624	\$ 2,000,000
Federal					
Fees					
Other:					
Total	\$ 401,816	\$ 532,280	\$ 532,280	\$ 533,624	\$ 2,000,000

Narrative: This Board letter seeks authorization for the Director of Behavioral Wellness to sign an agreement with the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission agency accepting Early Psychosis Intervention (EPI) grant funds in the amount of \$2,000,000 over the four-year period of execution date through 2/28/2025. Due to the agreement being released late, costs between FY 20-21 and FY 24-25 may need to be moved and will be determined if there are any savings during this initial period.

Staffing Impacts:

Behavioral Wellness Positions	FTE
Team Leader	1.0
Case Worker	1.0
Lead Peer Recovery Specialist	1.0
Peer Recovery Assistant	0.5
Peer Recovery Assistant	0.5
Peer Recovery Assistant	0.5

Currently new legal positions are not required. BWell will return to the Board for approval should new positions be determined necessary.

Key Contract Risks:

This grant agreement is cost reimbursed; therefore, MHSOAC will reimburse Behavioral Wellness based upon the expenditures submitted quarterly. The grant agreement also imposes procedural and reporting requirements implemented by Behavioral Wellness that could be subject to audit by MHSOAC in the future. The grant imposes indemnity obligations to the State as well. The contract also includes a budget contingency clause which absolves the State from liability to pay funds or other consideration under the Agreement if funds are not budgeted for the program in which case the County may cease providing services under the Agreement and the Agreement shall no longer be in full force and effect. The grant agreement requires arbitration in the event of a dispute between the County and MHSOAC in accordance with California Public Contract Code Section 10240 et. seq. The costs of arbitration shall be shared equally between the parties; however, reasonable attorney fees may be recovered under certain circumstances. Absent enumerated grounds for correction or vacation of the award, the arbitrator’s decision shall be binding on the parties.

Special Instructions:

Please return one (1) Minute Order and one (1) complete copy of the contract to abello@sbcwell.org and to bwellcontractsstaff@co.santa-barbara.ca.us.

Attachments:

Attachment A: MHSOAC Grant Agreement FY 2020-2025

Authored by:

Ana Bello/Evelyn Zuroske