



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: December 16, 2025
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s): Antonette Navarro, LMFT, Director
Department of Behavioral Wellness
Contact: Evelyn Zuroske, MS, Counseling, House & Grants Program
Manager, Department of Behavioral Wellness
SUBJECT: First Amendments to the Behavioral Health Student Services Act Grant Agreements with the Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission for Round 4, Category 3: Sustainability and Round 4, Category 4: Other Priorities grant funds for Fiscal Year 2024–2028

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, ratify, and authorize the Director of the Department of Behavioral Wellness or designee to execute a First Amendment (No. 24MHSOAC018.A1) to the Behavioral Health Student Services Act, Round 4, Category 3: Sustainability Grant Agreement with the Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission to extend the term end date to March 31, 2028; modify reporting requirements; and reallocate grant year budget amounts with no change to the total maximum grant award amount of \$449,650;
- b) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Director of the Department of Behavioral Wellness or designee to execute a First Amendment (No. 24MHSOAC057.A1) to the Behavioral Health Student Services Act, Round 4, Category 4: Other Priorities Grant Agreement (No.24MHSOAC057) with the Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission to extend the term end date to March 31, 2028, and modify reporting requirements with no change to the total maximum grant award amount of \$300,000; and

- c) Determine that the above-recommended actions are 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 actions are governmental funding mechanisms and/or fiscal activities that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to request the Board of Supervisors' approval to execute First Amendments to the Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (BHSOAC) grant agreements for Category 3 (Sustainability) and Category 4 (Other Priorities), to extend the end date of each grant Agreement, from December 31, 2027, to March 31, 2028. There are no changes to the total grant award amounts of each agreement. The new contract term will be March 5, 2025, through March 31, 2028.

The Category 3 (Sustainability) grant agreement provides funding for the facilitation of financial sustainability for Behavioral Health Student Services Act (BHSSA) services in Santa Barbara County. The Category 4 (Other Priorities) grant agreement provides funding for training and education to school staff on sexual exploitation of children and youth through the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) program, through BWell's contracted partner Santa Barbara Education Office (SBCEO).

Discussion:

BHSOAC requested to extend the term of these grant agreements No.24MHSOAC018 and No. 24MHSOAC057, by 3 months, to end March 31, 2028, in response to multiple grantee requests for additional time to expend awarded funds. Additional updates to the grant agreement include a new Deliverables requirement of Final Reports to be provided to BHSOAC by BWell, and a reallocation of the funded amounts to spread funding throughout March 31, 2028. Approval of the recommended actions will allow additional time for these funds to be utilized as outlined in their respective grant agreements and provide continued access to mental health services in collaboration with schools to children and youth in Santa Barbara County.

Background:

On July 23, 2020, Behavioral Wellness was awarded one of two grants by BHSOAC, for the purpose of building and strengthening partnerships between education and community mental health. In response, on September 15, 2020, the County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors authorized the Department of Behavioral Wellness (BWell) to execute the Mental Health Student Services Act (MHSSA) multi-year agreement (No.19MHSOAC082) with BHSOAC for mental health services for children and youth through school-based programs, in the amount of \$4,000,000 for the period of October 1, 2020, through September 30, 2024.

On August 31, 2021, the County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors authorized a First Amendment to extend the end of the term of the grant from September 30, 2024, through September 30, 2025. On December 13, 2022, the Board of Supervisors authorized a Second Amendment by the MHSAOC to extend the end of the term of the grant from September 30, 2025 through December 31, 2026, using funding from a contract award under Round 3 BHSSA competitive grant funding. The County was awarded \$1,022,151 in BHSOAC grant funds for continued provision of services, for a new contract maximum not to exceed \$5,022,151, for services provided through December 31, 2026. This amendment also added additional services provided by the Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO).

On February 22, 2024, the BHSAOC approved expenditure of funds from the fourth round of MHSSA competitive-grant funding, with a total of \$25,000,000 awarded. The County was awarded \$749,650 in BHSAOC Grant funds, inclusive of \$449,650 under Category 3 (Sustainability) funding, and \$300,000 under Category 4 (Other Priorities) funding, for the continued provision of mental health services for children and youth through school-based programs provided from March 4, 2025, through December 31, 2027.

On March 4, 2025, the Board of Supervisors authorized BWell to execute a multi-year grant Agreement (No. 24MHSAOC018) with BHSAOC, under Category 3 (Sustainability) funding, to procure a 1.0 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) QIS Coordinator to facilitate financial sustainability for BHSSA services in Santa Barbara County. The QIS Coordinator provides school and community evaluations to assist in identifying gaps within the school system of care, compile data to assist with data-driven decision making and develop BHSAOC reports, in addition to assisting school districts with implementation of Medi-Cal billing for school-based services.

On March 4, 2025, the Board of Supervisors also authorized BWell to enter a multi-year grant Agreement (No. 24MHSAOC057) with BHSAOC, Under Category 4 (Other Priorities), for BWell to subcontract with Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO) to hire a 0.90 FTE Navigator, to expand services to provide school staff with training on sexual exploitation of children and youth through the CSEC program. The CSEC program is provided through Mental Wellness Education & Linkages (MWEL) program to educate school staff on warning signs, risk factors, reducing stigma and mandated reported requirements. MWEL staff will work with the SBCEO District Office and law enforcement agencies to ensure youth are in a safe environment and engaged with outreach efforts and treatment services. The application of these funds and service provisions to SBCEO are contingent upon approval and execution of this First Amendment to the Agreement of Services with SBCEO for FY 2022-25 (BC 22-194), . This First Amendment will provide services from BWell to SBCEO under Category 3 grant agreement specifications and apply funding and services to SBCEO under Category 4 grant agreement specifications, as well as extend the terms of this Agreement in alignment with the end dates of the grant agreements. The First Amendment of SBCEO Contract BC 22-194 is also scheduled to go before the Board of Supervisors on December 16, 2025.

Performance Measure: The BHSAOC Program Round 4 funding performance measures address the following goals:

Category 3 (Sustainability):

1. Identifying and securing additional funding sources, including changes to Medi-Cal covered services, and additional grant funding opportunities to sustain ongoing work for the BHSSA program.
2. Increasing collaboration and communication between Behavioral Wellness and Santa Barbara County Education Office.
3. Increasing collaboration opportunities with public and privately funded mental health providers.

Category 4 (Other Priorities):

1. Increasing knowledge of Santa Barbara County school district staff in the identification of early warning signs and in the utilization of the FRIT screener for potential CSEC youth.
2. Increasing the number of identified CSEC youth.
3. Increasing number of services and linkages provided to identified CSEC youth.

4. Increasing collaboration and communication between Behavioral Wellness and Santa Barbara County Education Office.

Contract Renewals and Performance Outcomes:

Performance measure application of the funds and provisions of both Categories 3 and 4 services are contingent upon the approval and execution of the First Amendment to the Agreement for Services with SBCEO for FY 2022-25.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Source	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	Total
General Fund					
State	\$61,272	\$249,564	\$254,996	\$183,818	\$749,650
Federal					
Fees					
[Other Source]					
Total	\$61,272	\$249,564	\$254,996	\$183,818	\$749,650

The total possible BHSSA grant award is **\$749,650** in State funding through March 31, 2028. There is no General Fund Contribution for this program. Funds will be used to retain a Quality Improvement and Sustainability (QIS) Coordinator to facilitate financial sustainability for BHSSA services in Santa Barbara County. Additionally, funding will be used to retain a 0.90 FTE Navigator, in contract with SBCEO, to expand services in school staff training in the prevention, identification and resources on sexual exploitation of children and youth within the county, through the CSEC program.

Staffing Impacts:

There are no impacts to BWell staffing because the QIS Coordinator is filled by existing BWell staff. The Navigator shall be provided through a contracted provider.

Special Instructions:

Please return one (1) Minute Order, and one (1) copy of each executed First Amendments to Sara Hernandez at sahernandez@sbcbbwell.org and the BWell Contracts Division at bwellcontractsstaff@sbcbbwell.org.

Attachments:

Attachment A – BHSOAC Category 3 FY 24-28 First Amendment (No.24MHSOAC018.A1)

Attachment B – BHSOAC Category 4 FY 24-28 First Amendment (No. 24MHSOAC027.A1)

Attachment C – BHSOAC Category 3 (No. 24MHSOAC018) FY 24-28 Agreement Packet, Executed

Attachment D – BHSOAC Category 4 (No. 24MHSOAC057) FY 24-28 Agreement Packet, Executed

Contact Information:

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