



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: February 28, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Antonette Navarro, LMFT, Director
Director(s) Behavioral Wellness, (805) 681-5220
Contact Info: Dr. Ole Behrendtsen, Medical Director
Behavioral Wellness, (805) 681-5220
SUBJECT: Behavioral Wellness Staffing Contract – First Amendment to LocumTenens.com
LLC FY 2022-2024 Board Contract

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, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute a First Amendment to the multi-year Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with **LocumTenens.com LLC** (not a local vendor) to update the contract consistent with state requirements and increase the FY 22-23 contract maximum amount by \$500,000 due to the increased need for temporary staffing services at the Department of Behavioral Wellness Psychiatric Health Facility, for a new total Maximum Agreement Value not to exceed **\$2,900,000**, inclusive of \$1,700,000 for FY 22-23 and \$1,200,00 for FY 23-24, for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024; and
- B. Determine that the above actions are government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project that 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:

The above-referenced item is on the agenda to request approval and authorization of a First Amendment to the Agreement with LocumTenens.com LLC (LocumTenens) to update the contract consistent with state requirements and increase the contract maximum amount for FY 2022-2023 by \$500,000, due to an increased need for temporary staffing services at the Department of Behavioral Wellness (BWell) Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF).

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. 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 psychiatrists, nurse practitioners, and physician's assistants to work at BWell facilities.

On June 28, 2022, the County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors (Board) authorized Board Contract Agreement (BC #22-077) with LocumTenens.com LLC for FY 2022-2024 for the provision of locum tenens psychiatry services, inclusive of \$1,200,000 per Fiscal Year, for a total Maximum Agreement Value not to exceed \$2,400,000 for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024 (Attachment B).

LocumTenens.com LLC provides temporary psychiatrists, nurse practitioners, and physician's assistants to Behavioral Wellness clinics, the PHF, and other Behavioral Wellness programs, as needed. These temporary staff provide 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.

BWell is continuing its efforts of recruitment to fill these essential positions and decrease the need for temporary staffing services. However, in spite of these efforts, BWell has an urgent and increased need for temporary staffing services at BWell's PHF. Therefore, BWell is requesting that the Board authorize a First Amendment to the Board Contract allowing an increase in the FY 22-23 Contract maximum amount by \$500,000, for a new total Maximum Agreement Value not to exceed \$2,900,000, inclusive of \$1,700,000 for FY 22-23 and \$1,200,000 for FY 23-24. The First Amendment would also update the contract consistent with the State Public Health Officer Order of September 13, 2022. Approval of this First Amendment will allow BWell to continue to provide mandated services to BWell PHF clients without a gap in services.

Performance Outcomes:

BWell is currently utilizing four (4) professionals, (3.5 FTE), provided by LocumTenens.com LLC, all of whom are psychiatrists. These locum tenens professionals are providing services throughout the County at various programs including adult services and the Assertive Community Treatment (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:

Funding Sources	Total FY 22-23		Total FY 23-24		Total FY 22-24
	Cost		Cost		
General Fund					
State	\$	850,000	\$	600,000	\$ 1,450,000
Federal	\$	850,000	\$	600,000	\$ 1,450,000
Fees					
Other:					
Total	\$	1,700,000	\$	1,200,000	\$ 2,900,000

Narrative: The above-referenced contract is funded by State and Federal funds. The funding sources are included in the FY 22-23 Adopted 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. BWell may cancel an assignment for cause or convenience, and the contractor provides professional liability insurance for the professionals to mitigate these risks. In addition, the County pays only the contractor’s fees when the County utilizes a healthcare professional referred by the contractor; there are no monthly fees attached to this agreement.

Special Instructions:

Please email one (1) complete executed First Amendment and one (1) Minute order to cfoschaar@sbcbswell.org and bwellcontractsstaff@sbcbswell.org.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: LocumTenens.com FY 22-24 BC First Amendment
- Attachment B: LocumTenens.com FY 22-24 BC executed (BC-22077)

Authored by:

A. Foschaar