



**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: March 4, 2025
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s): Antonette Navarro, LMFT, Director
Department of Behavioral Wellness, (805) 681-5220
Contact Info: Evelyn Zuroske, MS, Counseling, Housing & Grants Program
Manager, Department of Behavioral Wellness, (805) 681-5220
Christina Lombard, LMFT, MHSSA Program Manager
Department of Behavioral Wellness, (805) 681-2075
SUBJECT: **Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (BHSOAC)**
Program Youth Grant Category 3 (Sustainability) and Category 4 (Other Priorities)
Standard Agreements

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, or designee, to execute the multi-year grant agreement (**No. 24MHSOAC018**) with the **Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission** (formerly known as Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC)) (**BHSOAC**), to retain a Quality Improvement and Sustainability (QIS) Coordinator in order to facilitate financial sustainability for Behavioral Health Student Services Act of 2019 (formerly known as Mental Health Student Services Act of 2019) (BHSSA) services in Santa Barbara County, through Round 4 grant funding, Category 3 (Sustainability) specific services, in the amount of **\$449,650**, inclusive of \$149,500 for Grant Year 1, \$149,500 for Grant Year 2, and \$150,650 for Grant Year 3, for the period of March 4, 2025 through December 31, 2027;
- b) Approve and authorize the Director of the Department of Behavioral Wellness, or designee, to execute the multi-year grant agreement (**No. 24MHSOAC057**) with the **Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission** (formerly known as Mental Health

Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC)) (**BHSOAC**), to retain a Navigator, to expand services to provide school staff with training on the awareness, identification and prevention education of commercial sexual exploitation of children and youth using the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Program, through Round 4 grant funding, Category 4 (Other Priorities) which supports the unique needs of individual BHSSA grantees, in the amount of **\$300,000**, inclusive of \$95,590 for Grant Year 1, \$100,064 for Grant Year 2, and \$104,346 for Grant Year 3, for the period of March 4, 2025 through December 31, 2027;

- c) Approve the Budget Revision Request No **BJE-0010263**, increasing appropriations of **\$122,545** in the Behavioral Wellness Department, Behavioral Health Student Services Act Fund, for services and supplies funded by unanticipated revenue from the Behavioral Health Student Services Act (BHSSA) grant; and
- d) Determine that the above 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 the actions are governmental funding mechanisms 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 authorize the Department of Behavioral Wellness to accept Round 4 under Behavioral Health Student Services Act (BHSSA) grant funding under Category 3 (Sustainability) with the Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (BHSOAC) in the amount of **\$449,650** over the grant period (BHSSA Grant), and BHSSA grant funding under Category 4 (Other Priorities) in the amount of **\$300,000** over a three-year period.

Approval of the recommended actions will allow the Behavioral Wellness to expand access to mental health services in collaboration with schools to children and youth.

Background:

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 County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors authorized a Second Amendment by the MHSOAC 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 item also added additional services to be provided by the Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO).

On February 22, 2024, the BHSOAC 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 BHSOAC 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.

- Agreement No. **24MHSOAC018**, under Category 3 (Sustainability) funding, will allow the County of Santa Barbara to procure a QIS Coordinator through a contracted provider, to facilitate financial sustainability for BHSSA services in Santa Barbara County. The QIS Coordinator will conduct 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 required reports, in addition to assisting school districts with implementation of Medi-Cal billing for school-based services. The QIS Coordinator will be secured through a contracted provider for the first two years of funding. During the third year, funding will be used to fund the Mental Wellness Education & Linkages (MWEL) Program Manager for ongoing sustainability of ongoing for work for the BHSSA programming.
- Agreement No. **24MHSOAC057**, Under Category 4 (Other Priorities) funding, will allow BWell to contract with SBCEO to hire a 1.0 FTE bilingual Navigator, to expand services to provide school staff with training on sexual exploitation of children and youth through the CSEC program. The CSEC program will be provided through MWEL program to educate school staff on warning signs, risk factors, reducing stigma and mandated reported requirements. The Navigator will attend Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) meetings, Student Attendance Review Board (SARB) hearings, and provide outreach and engagement throughout the county. The Navigator will conduct screenings and provide linkage to community resources for behavioral health services to youth who are CSEC identified. MWEL staff will work with District Attorney's Office and law enforcement agencies to ensure youth are in a safe environment and engaged with outreach efforts and treatment services.

Approval of the recommended actions will allow BWell to provide grant funded mental health services to ensure BHSAOC grant goals are met and necessary services are provided to clients in need.

Performance Measure:

Category 3-Sustainability (24MHSOAC018) measurable outcomes include fiscally identified sustainable braided funding, to continue a partnership with, and provide school-based mental health services.

For Category 4-Other Priorities funding, a Mental Wellness Education & Linkages (MWEL) Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Program Identification Post-Training Survey will measure changes in knowledge of school staff about the identification, warning signs, screening tool, and mandated reporting of suspected CSEC youth. Vertical Change will be used to track the changes/increases in the number of identified youths, as well as the services, interagency collaboration, FRIT screenings, and linkages provided to the CSEC youth upon identification.

The type of data collected to monitor the program's success include:

1. Number of CSEC Identification Trainings provided by MWEL to school staff
2. Number of school staff attending training
3. Change in school staff knowledge of CSEC youth identification (via post training survey)
4. Number of First Responder Identification Tool (FRIT) screenings implemented
5. Number of identified CSEC youth
6. Demographics of identified CSEC youth served
7. Number and type of services/linkages provided to CSEC youth
8. Number of Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings attended by MWEL staff
9. Number of CSEC youth linked to Mental Health Services

Contract Renewals:

Since implementing the MWEL program, BWELL has developed a strong collaboration with the SBCEO, school districts, and community partners countywide. A positive impact on the children and youth in the county has been made through the commitment to identifying and securing resources. MDT has identified the need for more comprehensive data collection, sharing and analysis due to only the availability of “snapshot” data, making it difficult to understand the dept to which sexual exploitation of children and youth is impacting County schools and communities.

Approval to receive grant funding will support efforts to standardize the collection of comprehensive CSEC data to ensure the CSEC program will meet the needs of the communities to prevent child and youth sexual exploitation, through increased training provided to SBCEO staff to identify warning signs and increased services for affected youth.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Budget Revision Request (BRR) **#BJE-0010263** will increase appropriations of **\$122,545** in the Behavioral Wellness Department, Behavioral Health Student Services Act Fund, for services and supplies funded by unanticipated revenue from the BHSSA grant.

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Source	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	Total
General Fund					
State	\$122,545	\$249,564	\$254,996	\$122,545	\$749,650
Federal					
Fees					
Total	\$122,545	\$249,564	\$254,996	\$122,545	\$749,650

The total possible BHSSA grant award is for **\$749,650** in State funding through December 31, 2027. The FY 2024-25 amount of \$122,545 is the pro-rated 6-month amount. 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 1.0 FTE bilingual 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 and Navigator positions are through contracted providers.

Special Instructions:

Please return one (1) Minute Order, and one (1) copy of each of the Executed Agreements to sahernandez@sbcbbwell.org and bwellcontractsstaff@sbcbbwell.org

Attachments:

Attachment A – 24MHSOAC018 Category 3 Sustainability SA FY 24-28

Attachment B - 24MHSOAC018 Category 3 Sustainability SA FY 24-28 Exhibits

Attachment C- SBCBWELL MHSSA Category 3 Sustainability Application

Attachment D – 24MHSOAC057 Category 4 Other Priorities SA FY 24-28

Attachment E - 24MHSOAC057 Category 4 Other Priorities SA FY 24-28 Exhibits

Attachment F – SBCBWELL MHSSA Category 4 Other Priorities Application

Attachment G – Budget Revision Request (BJE-0010263)

Authored by:

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