



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 27, 2018  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Alice A. Gleghorn PhD, Director  
Director(s) Department of Behavioral Wellness, 681-5220  
Contact Info: Pamela Fisher, PsyD. Deputy Director, Chief of Clinical  
Operations  
Department of Behavioral Wellness, 681-5220

**SUBJECT:** Mental Health Association in Santa Barbara (dba Mental Wellness Center) FY 17-18 Second Amendment for FEMA grant-funded Crisis Counseling Services

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**County Counsel 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 Second Amendment to Mental Health Association in Santa Barbara County's (dba Mental Wellness Center)'s FY 17-18 contract, to add a new statement of work for Crisis Counseling services starting February 15, 2018 and to increase the contract by \$719,180 including \$316,843 in currently available FEMA grants to cover Program Services through March 15, 2018, with additional funding contingent on state and federal approvals, for a new contract maximum amount not to exceed \$2,240,285 through June 30, 2018.
- B. Determine that the approval of the recommended actions is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4) since the recommended actions are government fiscal activities which do not involve commitment to any specific project which may result in potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Summary Text:**

Behavioral Wellness has been providing Crisis Counseling Services to Santa Barbara County community members since January 15, 2018. This agenda item is before the Board to transfer services from Behavioral Wellness to Mental Wellness Center (MWC) on February 15, 2018 through an amendment to their FY 17-18 contract, adding a new statement of work for Crisis Counseling Services funded through the California Hope – 805 Program. The Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program (CCP) is a federally funded disaster relief program to fund supplemental mental health assistance and training activities for Santa Barbara County community members affected by the Thomas Fire and Montecito Mudslide disasters. Approval of the recommended actions will allow Behavioral Wellness to contract with MWC for additional services to assist individuals and communities recovering from the effects of these natural disasters by providing community-based outreach and psychoeducational services, with funding provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the California Department of Healthcare Services (DHCS) California Hope CCP. DHCS notified the County on February 5, 2018 that FEMA approved implementing the CCP Immediate Services Program (ISP) with funding for crisis counseling services provided between January 15 and March 15, 2018. Behavioral Wellness will return to the Board with the DHCS grant acceptance documents once they are received, along with any corresponding budget revision required.

**Background:**

The Thomas Fire and the Montecito Mudslide that occurred from December 2017 to January 2018 have had an unprecedented impact on Santa Barbara County. In total, the Thomas Fire burned over 280,000 acres – the largest acreage ever burned in California, destroying 1,063 structures and damaging 280 structures. As a result of the fire, 27 homes were destroyed in Santa Barbara County. The mudslide has changed the geography of Santa Barbara County. It took many homes and erased property lines and in many cases, there is no longer a lot for the owner to rebuild upon. As a result of the mudslides, another 440 homes were damaged or destroyed, 23 commercial businesses were damaged or destroyed, and there were 21 deaths and 2 missing persons. There will be an economic impact on the county due to this destruction of property. The loss of Aurora Vista Del Mar psychiatric hospital in Ventura due to the Thomas Fire has negatively impacted Santa Barbara County by eliminating access to acute inpatient beds, which had been contracted at an average of 10 per day. This leaves just 16 acute beds for involuntary psychiatric services in county, increasing pressure on an already over-burdened resource.

On January 15, 2018, FEMA authorized individual assistance for persons in Santa Barbara County affected by the Thomas Fire and Montecito Mudslide disasters. On January 29, 2018, Behavioral Wellness applied for a FEMA grant for Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program (CCP) Services and on February 5, 2018 the Department received a Notice of Award for \$316,842.95 for the Immediate Services Program (ISP) to cover services through March 15, 2018. Due to Mental Wellness Center (MWC)'s capacity to quickly hire paraprofessionals as well as licensed clinicians, Behavioral Wellness is contracting with MWC to implement CCP Services. The CCP is a federally funded supplemental program administrated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) FEMA. Section 416 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §5183 authorizes FEMA to fund mental health assistance and training activities in areas that have been declared a major disaster by the President of the United States. States, U.S. territories and tribes that are impacted by a major disaster are eligible to receive CCP services. The mission of the CCP is to assist individuals and communities in recovering from the effects of natural and human-caused disasters (such as The Thomas Fire and Montecito Mudslide) through the provisions of community-based outreach and

psycho-educational services. The CCP supports short-term interventions that involve assisting disaster survivors in understanding their current situations and reactions, mitigating stress, developing coping strategies, providing emotional support, and encouraging linkages with other individuals and agencies that help survivors in their recovery process.

Crisis Counseling means the application of individual and group treatment procedures which are designed to ameliorate the mental and emotional crisis and their subsequent psychological and behavioral conditions resulting from a major disaster or its aftermath. Services funded through the CCP include: individual crisis counseling, basic supportive or educational contact, group crisis counseling, public education, community network and support, assessment, referral and resource linkage, development and distribution of educational materials, media and public service announcements.

ISP funding is not to exceed 60 days from the date of the emergency declaration, in this case, the January 15, 2018 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment to the Presidential Declaration of Emergency. However, California may apply for a funding extension through the Regular Services Program (RSP), which provides a 30-day grace period while FEMA reviews the application and if approved will extend the grant by 9 months from the date of the Notice of Award.

**Performance Goals and Measures:**

The goal of the California Hope Immediate Services Program is intended to help disaster survivors recover from the adverse reactions to disaster and begin to rebuild their lives, through community-based outreach and psycho-educational services. The Program focuses on helping them understand their personal reactions, helping them plan action steps and solutions to resolve losses and overcome adversities, and linking them to other community resources. The Program helps survivors prioritize their needs and connect with organizations or people who can assist them. Although the Program is a temporary disaster relief program, it leaves behind a permanent legacy of more adaptive coping skills, educational and resource materials, and enhanced community linkages.

Consistent and timely data collection and evaluation are necessary to measure success of outreach efforts and the changing needs of disaster survivors. Contractor shall provide services to approximately 2146 clients during the ISP component of the Program. Data on service delivery must be collected by Program staff with authorized accounts in the Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program Online Data Collection and Evaluation System (ODCES). The mobile application for data collection is designed to enhance and streamline the process of data entry and reduce the lag time between data collection and its availability to Program staff and federal partners. If an RSP application is not submitted, then an ISP programmatic and fiscal report is due 90 days from the end of the ISP period end date. If an RSP application is granted, additional reporting requirements will apply.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No **Fiscal Analysis:**

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>Current FY Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u></b>
General Fund			
State	\$ 1,521,105.00		
Federal	\$ 719,180.00		
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 2,240,285.00	\$ -	\$ -

Narrative: The above referenced contracts are funded by State and Federal Funds.

**Key Contract Risks:**

As with any contract funded by State and Federal sources, there is a risk of future audit disallowances and repayments. Behavioral Wellness contracts include language requiring contractors to repay any amounts disallowed in audit findings, minimizing financial risks to the County.

**Staffing Impacts:** Behavioral Wellness will retain some of the grant funding to cover the following staffing positions:

<b><u>Legal Positions:</u></b>	<b><u>FTEs:</u></b>
Administration	1
Program Manager	1
Fiscal Specialist	1

**Special Instructions:**

Please email one (1) signature page and (1) minute order to Qiuana Lopez at: qilopez@co.santa-barbara.ca.us.

**Attachments:**

- Attachment A: Mental Wellness Center FY 17-18 Amendment 2
- Attachment B: Mental Wellness Center FY 17-18 Amendment 1
- Attachment C: Mental Wellness Center FY 17-18 BC

**Authored by:**

Q. Lopez