



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: September 19, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
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: Suzanne Grimmesey, MFT, PIO/Chief of Strategy and
Community Engagement, Behavioral Wellness, (805) 681-5220
SUBJECT: **Transitions-Mental Health Association (TMHA) First Amendment to the FY 22–24 Subrecipient Agreement for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Services**

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 Chair to execute the First Amendment to the Subrecipient Agreement for Services with **Transitions-Mental Health Association** (BC 22-100), a California nonprofit corporation (not a local vendor), to extend the agreement term through December 31, 2023 with no change to the maximum contract amount of **\$182,400** for the period of July 12, 2022 through December 31, 2023; and
- B. Determine that the above action is a government funding mechanism or other government fiscal activity which does not involve any commitment to any specific project that may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment and is 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 the Board of Supervisors to approve the First Amendment to the Agreement with **Transitions-Mental Health Association** (TMHA) (BC 22-100) to extend the agreement term through December 31, 2023 with no change to the maximum contract amount of \$182,400 for the period of July 12, 2022 through December 31, 2023. The Agreement is for the provision of the LEAD the Conversation program, an outreach, education, and community wellness program to implement community pandemic impact partnership project, funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Fund and the State Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF).

Background:

The COVID-19 pandemic intensified behavioral health needs across the state, created new barriers for people with mental illness and substance use disorders, and increased the prevalence of mental health conditions. On March 11, 2021, ARPA was signed into law and established the SLFRF program, which provides support to county governments, among others, in responding to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, including those to behavioral health. The County received ARPA SLFRF funds through the County Executive Office (CEO).

In March 2022, BWell was tasked by the County’s CEO to conduct a request for proposals to fund Community Pandemic Impact Partnership Projects that provide Community Action (Trained Community Gatekeepers) services and Mental Health Education and Skill Development programs with ARPA SLFRF funds. On April 1, 2022, BWell issued a Notice of Intent to Award announcing a contract award to TMHA in the amount of \$182,400 for the implementation of a Community Action (Trained Community Gatekeepers) program. TMHA is a subrecipient of SLFRF funds through this Agreement.

“Community gatekeepers” are people who have influence within the community regarding de-stigmatizing, accessing and utilizing emotional support resources (for example, teachers, community and religious leaders, etc). Community gatekeepers can strongly influence the value systems of those around them. Examples of key industries/businesses that may serve as gatekeepers include personal services (hair, nails), restaurants, pharmacies, primary care providers, surgery centers, coaches, schools, and faith-based establishments.

TMHA is a non-profit organization serving San Luis Obispo County and North Santa Barbara County, dedicated to eliminating stigma and promoting recovery and wellness for people with mental illness through work, housing, community, and family support services. TMHA has an agreement with BWell for the provision of adult and transition age youth specialty mental health services for FY 2021-2024, which the Board approved on June 22, 2021 (BC 21-078).

On July 12, 2022, the Board approved a separate ARPA SLFRF Subrecipient Agreement with TMHA (BC 22-100) due to the differing funding requirements, for a maximum contract amount not to exceed \$182,400 for the period of July 12, 2022 through September 30, 2023. This agreement (BC 22-100) is for the provision of the LEAD the Conversation program, an outreach, education, and community wellness program that provides a combination of evidence-based trainings and community presentations that are delivered primarily by people with lived mental health experience. These trainings and presentations deliver mental health education and information targeted to reduce stigma about mental health and equip community gatekeepers with the mental health knowledge and training necessary to identify people with mental health and substance use challenges, respond in a supportive manner, and refer them to local resources. TMHA organizes and provides evidence-based trainings to community gatekeepers, including Mental Health First Aid, Youth Mental Health First Aid, and Question, Persuade, Refer. The LEAD the Conversation program serves the cities of Santa Maria, Lompoc, Guadalupe, and Santa Ynez.

BWell now requests Board approval of the first amendment to BC 22-100, which extends the agreement term through December 31, 2023 without any other changes to the agreement. Approval of the recommended actions will allow TMHA to continue providing these services through December 31, 2023 and utilize the remaining ARPA funding, which is not expected to be fully expended by September 30, 2023.

Performance Measures:

The agreement contains performance measures to monitor implementation and improve staff proficiency. Program goals, outcomes, and measures can be found in Exhibit E of the Agreement.

Performance Outcomes:

TMHA met 6 of their 8 goals in FY 22-23:

1. They served 238 clients with a goal of 200;
2. They increased familiarity of community mental health serves for 58% with a goal of 20%;
3. They increased motivation to engage in community mental health services by 38% with a goal of 20%;
4. They increased mental health and substance use knowledge, coping skills, and resiliency by 50% with a goal of 20%;
5. Data showed an increased knowledge of suicide warnings by 52% with a goal of 20%; and
6. They reduced stigma in seeking mental health services by 78% with a goal of 20%.

Of the goals they did not meet:

7. They had 5 community presentations with a goal of 12; and
8. They had 9 evidence-based trainings with a goal of 12.

TMHA will work to meet these anticipated presentation and training goals with the contract extension.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Total Cost FY 22-24</u>
General Fund	
State	
Federal	
Fees	
Other: ARPA Federal Grant CFDA 21.027	\$ 182,400.00
Total	\$ 182,400.00

Narrative: The above referenced contract is funded by ARPA SLFRF. To sustain the LEAD program following the expenditure of ARPA funds, BWell has identified Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funding as the ongoing funding stream. The LEAD program will be added to TMHA’s existing Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with BWell for FY 2021-2024 (BC 21-078) through an amendment approved by the Board.

Key Contract Risks:

As with any contract funded by Federal sources, there is a risk of future audit disallowances and repayments through the Federal auditing process. This Agreement includes language providing the County the opportunity to seek legal remedy for repayment of any amounts disallowed in audit findings, minimizing financial risks to County.

Special Instructions:

Please email one (1) Minute Order and one (1) copy of the executed Agreement to Bethany Le at bethle@sbcbswell.org and to the BWell Contracts Division at bwelcontractsstaff@sbcbswell.org.

Attachments:

Attachment A: TMHA FY 22-24 ARPA First Amendment

Attachment B: TMHA FY 22-24 ARPA Executed (BC 22-100)

Authored by:

Bethany Le