



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number:

Department Name: BeWell
Department No.: 043
For Agenda Of: February 25, 2020
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Alice Gleghorn, PH.D., Director
Director(s) Behavioral Wellness 681-5220
Contact Info: Pam Fisher,
Behavioral Wellness 681-5220

SUBJECT: California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) – Amendment to Inter-Member Transfer Participation Agreement

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence

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 Behavioral Wellness (BeWell) to execute an amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding with the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA), which would extend the Inter-Member Transfer Program Participation Agreement on behalf of the County for one additional year with an administrative and operations fee of \$2,984.45 for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020; and
- B. Determine that these activities are exempt from California Environmental Quality Act review per CEQA Guideline 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 a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

The Board of Supervisors approved and authorized the BeWell Director to enter into the CalMHSA Inter-Member Transfer Program (Program) Participation Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on August 14, 2018. The MOU authorized the transfer of County funds to CalMHSA for the provision of foster youth specialty mental health services (SMHS) for foster youth placed out of the county. This item is on the agenda to request approval to allow the BeWell Director to sign an amendment to the MOU on behalf of County.

Background:

Counties that provide foster youth SMHS are reimbursed through federal financial participation (FFP) and matching county share Medi-Cal billing. A 2016 bill, AB 1299, added Welfare and Institutions Code Section 14717.1, which changed the responsibility for these services from the county of jurisdiction (sending county) to the county of residence (receiving county) in which the foster youth resides. AB 1299 requires that foster children placed outside of their county of original jurisdiction will now have access to SMHS within a timely manner through “presumptive transfer,” in which the receiving county assures that SMHS are provided.

CalMHSA is the fiscal administrative solution to the implementation of AB1299 by creating a centralized process for exchanging the non-federal funds required for AB 1299 cash flow, namely a banking pool. The law failed to anticipate that receiving counties without adequate reserves would be unable to implement the current statute. Medi-Cal programs require uniformity in statewide access. The banking pool meets this statewide goal through an efficient means of transferring county funds to provide treatment to vulnerable youth.

The mental health service is reimbursed through federal financial participation (FFP) and matching county share Medi-Cal billing, as well as additional payments if necessary services are rendered. Currently, the estimated cost for Medi-Cal services is \$59,689 which is based on previous years that is included in the FY 2019/2020 budget. If BeWell opted-out of the CalMHSA banking pool program, the County would have to use staff resources to conduct these additional administrative services, such as costs for contracting, certifying of providers, negotiating with vendors, accounts-payable services, and monitoring.

CalMHSA is requesting that Santa Barbara County approve the amended participation agreement to extend the current term for one additional year, commencing July 1, 2019 through and including June 30, 2020, with an administration fee of \$2,984.45 for the administration and operation of the Inter-member Transfer Program.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State	\$ 59,689.00	\$ 59,689.00	
Federal			
Fees	\$ 2,984.45	\$ 2,984.45	
Other:			
Total	\$ 62,673.45	\$ 62,673.45	

Narrative: The above-referenced contract is funded through State Mental Health Realignment funds. This funding source was included in the FY 2019-2020 budget process and was approved. The subsequent year will be contingent on Board of Supervisor budget approval. Approval of this amendment does not impact the general fund contribution.

Key Contract Risks

If BeWell opted out of the CalMHSA banking pool program, we would be responsible for the additional administrative cost of contracting, including certification of providers, negotiation with vendors, accounts payable service, and monitoring. Once opting into the program, the County must provide CalMHSA with six months’ notice.

Special Instructions:

Please send one (1) scanned copy of the Minute Order to Denise Morales: dmorales@co.santa-barbara.ca.us and bwellcontractsstaff@co.santa-barbara.ca.us.

Attachments:

Attachment A: CalMHSA Inter-Member Transfer Program Amended Agreement FY 19-20

Attachment B: CalMHSA Inter-Member Transfer Program Agreement FY 18-19

Authored by: D. Morales