



**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: June 09, 2026
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s): Antonette Navarro, LMFT, Director
Department of Behavioral Wellness
Contact: Katie Cohen, Psy.D., Assistant Director of
Clinical Operations, Department of Behavioral Wellness

SUBJECT: Third Amendment to the Services Agreement with Family Service Agency of Santa Barbara County for Alcohol and Drug Program and Mental Health Services for Fiscal Years 2023-2027

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 a Third Amendment to the Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Family Service Agency of Santa Barbara County (FSA) (a local vendor) (BC 23-125) to terminate the Managed Care Mental Health/Brief Therapy Services Program, effective June 30, 2026; to add the Mental Health Services Community Based Access Program and Behavioral Health Services Act Housing Interventions Rental Assistance Program, effective July 1, 2026; to update program budget and service type requirements; to add the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-27 Federal Award Identification table; and reduce the contract amount by \$719,295 for a revised, total maximum contract amount not to exceed \$7,721,843, inclusive of \$632,000 in Alcohol and Drug Program funding (\$158,000 per fiscal year) and \$7,089,843 in Mental Health funding (\$2,832,230 for FY 2023-24, \$3,084,245 for FY 2024-25, \$873,368 for FY 2025-26, and \$300,000 for FY 2026-27), with no change to the contract term of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2027;

- b) Delegate to the Director of the Department of Behavioral Wellness or designee to amend services locations and program staffing requirements per Exhibits A-9 and A-10 without altering the maximum contract amount and without requiring the Board's approval of an amendment of the Agreement, subject to the Board's ability to rescind this delegated authority at any time; and
- c) Determine that the above-recommended 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 that the actions are governmental funding mechanisms and/or fiscal activities that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to request the Board of Supervisors to authorize the Chair to execute a third amendment to the agreement for services with Family Service Agency, Inc. (FSA), to terminate the Managed Care Mental Health/Brief Therapy Services program effective June 30, 2026. The Managed Care Mental Health/Brief Therapy Services program provides assessment and mental health brief therapy services to children and adults with serious mental illness (SMI) in the County of Santa Barbara. This program will be replaced with the Community Based Access program, which shall only provide assessment services to the same population, effective July 1, 2026.

Additionally, the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Housing Interventions Rental Assistance Program is being added to this Agreement effective July 1, 2026. This rental assistance program provides short-term rental assistance and coordination services for transitional rent for Medi-Cal eligible individuals whose Medi-Cal transitional rent benefit expires or who do not qualify for these benefits.

For Fiscal Year 2026-2027, the Community Based Access and BHSA Housing Interventions Rental Assistance programs will be the only two active programs FSA will provide through the end of this agreement on June 30, 2026. Other programs were terminated in the first and second amendments.

Discussion:

Family Service Agency (FSA) provides mental health services and substance use prevention to children, youth, and adults throughout Santa Barbara County.

In March 2024, California passed Proposition 1, which includes the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA), to support Californians living with the most significant mental health needs. The passing of this proposition updated the existing components of MHSA and how funding is allocated. Programs funded through MHSA will terminate June 30, 2026, in anticipation of the new fee-for-service funding structure effective July 1, 2026, under the new BHSA Program. Due to this shift to BHSA, the Managed Care Mental Health/Brief Therapy program will cease therapy services as of June 30, 2026, and transition to the Community Based Access program model of providing community facing mental health assessment services. The population currently served will, during the assessment process, be referred to the appropriate level of therapy services within the BWell network of providers.

The Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Housing Interventions Rental Assistance Program will provide rental assistance to eligible members for six to 12 months, utilizing BHSA Housing Intervention funding. This assistance is available if a member is not eligible for transitional rent benefits through the County of Santa Barbara's Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan.

Background:

BWell provides a continuum of mental health and substance use disorder services to Santa Barbara County residents, in part, through contracted providers including community-based organizations. FSA provides mental health services to children, youth, and adults through several programs throughout Santa Barbara County. These program services have included intensive in-home therapy, managed care therapy, school-based mental health services, mental health assessment for foster youth, and wellness promotion services for seniors. Additionally, FSA provides countywide primary prevention services through the Strengthening Families program, funded by Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant funds.

On August 29, 2023, the Board of Supervisors approved to enter into an Agreement for Services for Independent Contractor with FSA (BC 23-125), for the provision of children and adult mental health services and substance use prevention services for the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2027. This agreement included a new program funded by the Mental Health Services Act: Wellness Promotion for Seniors.

On June 18, 2024, the Board of Supervisors approved a First Amendment to the fiscal year (FY) 2023–27 agreement, which added contingency payment and contingency cost settlement provisions and incorporated changes for Medicare practitioner billing and State rate changes.

In March 2024, California passed Proposition 1, which includes the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA), to support Californians living with the most significant mental health needs. The passing of this proposition updated the existing components of MHSA and how funding is allocated. Programs funded through MHSA will terminate June 30, 2026, in anticipation of the new fee-for-service funding structure effective July 1, 2026, under the new BHSA Program.

On June 10, 2025, the Board of Supervisors approved the Second Amendment to this agreement, which came in response to the passing of Proposition 1. This amendment terminated the Intensive In-Home Services Program and the Pathways to Well-Being Mental Health Services Program (effective June 30, 2025). It also terminated the School-Based Mental Health Services program and the Wellness Promotion for Seniors program (effective June 30, 2026).

Performance Measure:

The FY 2023-27 agreement contains performance measures to monitor the implementation of the programs. Measures to meet the programs goals can be found in Exhibit E, Program Goals, Outcomes and Measures of the Agreement. These measures include:

- Provide the Strengthening Families education and skills training throughout Santa Barbara County;
- Assist members in their mental health recovery process and with developing the skills necessary to lead healthy and productive lives in the community;
- Reduce mental health and substance abuse symptoms resulting in reduced utilization of involuntary care and emergency rooms for mental health and physical health problems;
- Provide mental health (and/or substance abuse) services for children and their families in order to prevent out-of-home and out-of-county placements;
- Serve as liaison to settings where mental health services are not traditionally located; and
- Empower individuals, family members, and community members to identify and enhance culturally specific wellness practices.

Program Outcomes:

In FY 2025-26, program performance was evaluated across two domains: Mental Health Symptom Acuity and Stabilization in the Community, which together assess client stability and community-based outcomes. These measures were evaluated and detailed below for the following programs: Managed Care, Wellness Promotion for Seniors, and Strengthening Families. Overall, managed care performed well across both domains, with strong outcomes related to community stabilization, as well as consistent follow-up following higher acuity events.

Managed Care:

The following summary highlights key data points for the 11 performance measures available for Managed Care. Family Service Agency Managed Care served an average of 88 members per quarter, with average of 17 new enrollments per quarter and 31 discharges per quarter.

- **Mental Health Symptom Acuity:** The program met targets related to low rates of crisis service utilization (1%), inpatient hospitalization (0%), incarceration (1%), and follow up within 7 days post incarceration (100%), showing overall stability among clients served and timely follow up after crisis. Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS), assessments identifying youth and family actionable needs and useful strengths, improvement exceeded the target (83%; goal $\geq 50\%$), reflecting that members are improving in the majority of functional domains. Completion rates for Adult Needs and Strength Assessment (ANSA), which is multipurpose tool developed for adult's mental health services to support care planning reached 87% and CANS, 79%. Completion rate for Pediatric Symptom Checklist (PSC), the psychosocial screening tool to facilitate recognition of cognitive, emotional and behavioral problems for appropriate interventions was 37%. All three fell below the goals of $\geq 95\%$.
- **Stabilization in the Community:** The program exceeded targets for maintaining stable or permanent housing (99%) and successful discharge (88%).

Wellness Promotion for Seniors:

The program provided consistent, relationship-centered services that actively engaged seniors in residential communities. They had a quarterly average of 1,218 (duplicated) attendees at events, and average of 1,205 (duplicated) families attending events.

- **Number of Drop-in hours:** In FY 2025-26, FSA held an average of 64 drop-in hours per quarter, which fell below their target of 100 hours per quarter.
- **Number of Activities:** In FY 2025-26, FSA held an average of 136 activities per quarter, which exceeded their target of 50 activities per quarter.

Strengthening Families:

The Strengthening Families program reported they have served 21 adults, 28 children and youth, and 15 families. They have provided two 10-class series in Spanish, and no 10-class series in English. They provided childcare and meals for all sessions and collected over 50 consumer feedback surveys.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

The above-referenced Agreement is funded with a combination of State and Federal funds. With the transition to CalAIM Payment Reform, the fee-for-service portion of the contract will be funded with Medi-Cal Patient Revenue which primarily consists of Federal funds. The amount of Federal funds is contingent on the client's aid code and the State issued rate for the service. The Non-Medi-Cal

portion of the contract is funded with 2011 Realignment funding, MHSA, and Federal Substance Use and Prevention Treatment Block Grant (SUBG) for ADP adolescent services. BHSA will fund the BHSA Housing program for FY 2026-27. Funding was included in the adopted Budgets for FY 2023-24 through FY 2025-26 and in the Recommended Budget for FY 2026-27. There is no impact on the General Fund.

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Source	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	2025-26	FY 2026-27	Total
State Realignment	\$87,826	\$90,937	\$21,475	\$1,960	\$202,198
State BHSA	-	-	-	\$200,000	\$200,000
State MHSA	\$538,579	\$549,732	\$494,053	-	\$1,582,364
Federal	\$158,000	\$158,000	\$158,000	\$158,000	\$632,000
Medi-Cal Patient Revenue	\$2,205,825	\$2,443,576	\$357,840	\$98,040	\$5,105,281
Total	\$ 2,990,230	\$ 3,242,245	\$ 1,031,368	\$ 458,000	\$7,721,843

Special Instructions:

Please return one (1) Minute Order and one (1) copy of the Executed Amendment to Sara Hernandez at sahernandez@sbcbswell.org and to the BWell Contracts Branch at bwelcontractsstaff@sbcbswell.org

Attachments:

- Attachment A** – Family Service Agency FY 2023-27 Third Amendment (Signature Required)
- Attachment B** – Family Service Agency FY 2023-27 Second Amendment, Executed
- Attachment C** – Family Service Agency FY 2023-27 First Amendment, Executed
- Attachment D** – Family Service Agency FY 2023-27 Agreement (BC 23-125), Executed

Contact Information:

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 Contracts Analyst
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