

# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



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

**Agenda Number:**  
**Prepared on:** 07/12/2004  
**Department Name:** Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health  
**Department No.:** 043  
**Agenda Date:** 08/03/2004  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimate Time:**  
**Continued Item:** NO  
**If Yes, date from:**

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** James L. Broderick, Ph.D., Director  
Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health Services

**STAFF CONTACT:** Carrie Topliffe, ADMHS Assistant Director - Administration  
805.681.5231

**SUBJECT:** Child Abuse Listening and Mediation and Seneca Residential and Day Treatment Center contracts.

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## **Recommendation(s):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Approve and execute a contract in the amount of \$735,000, with Child Abuse Listening and Mediation (CALM), a local vendor, to provide mental health services to local children experiencing severe emotional disturbances. The contract term is from July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2005.
- B. Approve and execute a contract in the amount of \$135,000, with Seneca Residential and Day Treatment Center, (not a local vendor) to provide residential treatment for children suffering from severe emotional disturbances that cannot be treated in the community. The contract term is from July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2005.
- C. Authorize the Director of ADMHS to approve amendments to the proposed contracts, provided that any such amendments do not exceed ten percent (10%) of the contract's dollar amount.

## **Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:**

The recommendation(s) are primarily aligned with Goal No. 2. A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work and Visit.

## **Executive Summary and Discussion:**

Child Abuse Listening and Mediation (CALM) provides mental health treatment services to Medi-Cal eligible children experiencing severe emotional disturbances (SED). These services include family therapy, individual therapy, school based therapy and therapeutic foster care treatment. Family therapy focuses on the needs of the individual in relation to their family. Individual therapy is designed to provide a goal-directed therapeutic intervention with the client that focuses on the client's mental health needs. School based services are those Medi-Cal eligible services provided to the client in a school environment. Therapeutic foster care treatment provides therapeutic treatment services to children in foster care that will help them remain in their placements. CALM served one hundred and one (101) clients during FY2003-04, with seventy three (73) children continuing in therapy. Sixty (60) of the children who received services had an active Juvenile Probation case and seventy four (74) of the children had an open Child Welfare Services (CWS) case.

The CALM contract represents a \$60,000 increase from the amount approved for FY 2003-04, due to the addition of a bi-lingual therapist position providing Medi-Cal eligible services in the Santa Barbara area. Services provided to children under this contract are re-reimbursable to the county through Medi-Cal and state EPSDT funding.

Seneca Residential and Day Treatment Center (Seneca) provides residential services for children including day treatment, mental health services, therapeutic behavioral services and medical support services for children experiencing severe emotional disturbances (SED). Seneca is certified by the state to provide Rate Classification Level (RCL) 14 services to children who have SED as their primary diagnosis and would not benefit from treatment in a less restrictive environment.

The FY2004-05 Seneca contract represents an increase of \$88,000, over the initial Purchase Order for FY2003-04, which was written in anticipation of less than one bed-day per year utilization rate. However, two children were placed at Seneca for the entire year resulting in the use of 732 bed-days for those two children alone. The FY2004-05 contract increase is projected to account for a similar usage rate.

Your Board is now requested to approve the contracts for CALM and Seneca. Approval of these contracts will allow for continued psychotherapy and mental health services to be provided to seriously emotionally disturbed youth and their families in Santa Barbara County.

## **Mandates and Service Levels:**

Mental Health Services are mandated by the Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 5600.

## **Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

The recommended action has no impact on the General Fund contribution required on services provided in excess of the amounts provided in FY2001-02. The matching funds are in the Adopted FY 2004-05, Budget, line item 5910. The remaining funding sources for the CALM and Seneca contracts are from Medi-Cal/EPSDT revenues reimbursed to the county. These are identified in the Adopted FY 2004-05, Budget, line item 7460, in the Children's Services Division, page D-152.

These actions will not result in a need for any additional facilities.

**Special Instructions:**

Please send one (1) fully executed copy of each contract and endorsed minute order to:

Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health Services  
ATTN: Dana Fahey, Contracts Analyst  
300 N. San Antonio Road  
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

**Concurrence:**

Auditor-Controller  
Risk Management