



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: June 16, 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, PhD, Director
Director(s) Department of Behavioral Wellness 805-681-5220
Contact Info: Ole Behrendtsen, MD, Medical Director
Department of Behavioral Wellness 805-681-5220

SUBJECT: Behavioral Wellness FY 20-23 Contracts Renewal – Psynergy Programs, Inc.

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 and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement of Services of Independent Contractor with **Psynergy Programs, Inc.** (not a local vendor), for the provision of adult residential mental health services, for a contract amount not to exceed \$1,300,000 for FY 20-21, \$1,000,000 for FY 21-22, and \$1,000,000 for FY 22-23 for a total contract amount of **\$3,300,000** for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023;
- B. Approve and authorize the Chair to delegate to the Director of Behavioral Wellness or designee the authority to reallocate funding between funding sources during the term of the agreement, as long as there is no change to the Maximum Contract Amount; adjust daily rates if necessary to accommodate clients with acute needs; amend the program goals, outcomes, and measures in Exhibit E; and make immaterial changes to the Agreement without requiring a formal amendment to the agreement, subject to the Board's ability to rescind this delegated authority at any time; and
- C. Determine that these activities are exempt from California Environmental Quality Act review per CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4) since the recommended actions are government fiscal activities, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

Summary Text: The Department of Behavioral Wellness 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 (CBOs). Contracts with facilities providing services at various levels of care are key to ensuring that the needs of clients are optimally met. Approval of the recommended actions will allow Behavioral Wellness to continue to provide mandated mental health, substance use, and ancillary services.

Background:

Behavioral Wellness provides a continuum of services, including inpatient treatment services to best meet the needs of individuals with severe mental illness. Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMDs) are facilities including hospitals, nursing facilities, or other institutions of more than 16 beds that are primarily engaged in providing diagnosis, treatment, or care of persons with mental illness, including medical attention, nursing care, and related services. IMD-alternative facilities, such as Psynergy are unlocked facilities providing highly structural residential programs for clients transitioning out of IMDs.

Psynergy Programs, Inc. (Psynergy), located in the Bay Area, provides residential treatment services to adult clients as a step down from IMDs. Psynergy works with clients in IMDs to identify clients who may be ready to step down to a lower level of care, then works to step clients down through three progressions of residential care, with the eventual goal of equipping clients to return to Santa Barbara County to live independently. For fiscal years 2017-2020, Psynergy has consistently held an average caseload of 10-21 clients per quarter.

Performance Measures:

- Maintain the average quarterly percentage of psychiatric inpatient admissions at 10% or less.
- Maintain the percent of clients hospitalized for physical health reasons per quarter at 10% or less.
- Maintain the percentage of clients transitioning to a higher level of care due to psychiatric conditions at 10% or lower.
- Of clients that have been in treatment for 12 months or more, 75% will have reduced their level of service need from High to Moderate, as measured by the Level of Service Evaluation Form.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Sources	FY 20-21	FY 21-22	FY 20-23
General Fund			
State	\$ 650,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00
Federal	\$ 585,000.00	\$ 450,000.00	\$ 450,000.00
Fees			
Other:	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
Total	\$ 1,300,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00

Narrative: The above-referenced contract is funded by State and Federal funds. The funding sources are included in the FY 20-21 Proposed Budget. The multiyear contract is contingent on subsequent fiscal year budget approvals.

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.

Special Instructions:

Please send one (1) complete copy of each executed contract and one (1) minute order to: abello@co.santa-barbara.ca.us and the BWell Contracts Division at bwellcontractsstaff@co.santa-barbara.ca.us.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Psynergy Programs, Inc. FY 20-23

Authored by:

A. Bello