



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:** July 9, 2019  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Alice Gleghorn, PhD, Director  
Director(s) Department of Behavioral Wellness 805-681-5220  
Contact Info: Chris Ribeiro, Chief Financial Officer  
Department of Behavioral Wellness 805-681-5220  
**SUBJECT:** Behavioral Wellness Renewal- Vista Pacifica FY 19-20

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**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 for Services of Independent Contractor with **Vista Pacifica Enterprises, Inc.**, a California Corporation, (not a local vendor), an Institution for Mental Disease (IMD) and a Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) for a total contract maximum not to exceed **\$1,000,000** for the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.
- B) Determine that these activities are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act per CEQA Guidelines 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 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 its clients are optimally met.

The above item is on the Board's Agenda to request authorization to execute an Agreement for Services with Vista Pacifica Enterprises, Inc. (VPE) for Fiscal Years 2019-2020 for IMD and SNF services. Approval of the recommended actions will allow Behavioral Wellness to continue to provide mandated mental health services.

**Background:**

Behavioral Wellness provides a continuum of services, including inpatient treatment services to best meet the needs of individuals with severe mental illness. IMDs are facilities including psychiatric 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. Due to the Federal IMD Exclusion, these services are not reimbursable by Medi-Cal for clients between the ages of 21 and 65. There are a limited number of these highly structured residential treatment services in California and none are located in Santa Barbara County.

Behavioral Wellness examines the current caseload and historical use of IMD facilities in order to project the following year's contract amounts within the Behavioral Wellness' budget constraints. Behavioral Wellness contracts with IMDs that are licensed as Acute Psychiatric Hospitals, Skilled Nursing Facilities with Special Treatment Patches, and Mental Health Rehabilitation Centers. Due to limited bed availability at each IMD, Behavioral Wellness contracts with a number of IMDs throughout the State. Behavioral Wellness also contracts with IMD-alternative facilities, which are unlocked facilities providing highly structured residential programs for clients transitioning out of IMDs.

VPE has two California facilities: Vista Pacifica Center, located in Jurupa Valley and Vista Pacifica Convalescent in Riverside. Vista Pacifica Center specializes in geropsychology and offers four levels of service for clients that require high levels of supervision. These clients include those who have serious emotional disturbances (SED) and exhibit behavioral and medical needs that include: being absent without leave, extremely verbally aggressive or threatening, and abusive towards staff and peers. VPE's clients also include those who have serious mental illness (SMI) and exhibit behaviors such as: being suicidal, destroying property, and having severe psychosis which requires frequent redirection, counseling, and behavior modification from staff. Vista Pacifica Convalescent specializes in Alzheimer's Care and offers three levels of care: Level A focuses on clients with chronic mental health diagnosis, with active delusions and hallucinations and/or mood swings. Level B focuses on clients with dual diagnoses of Dementia and chronic mental illness with active psychosis. Level C focuses on clients with chronic mental health illness who are not stable on medications. Behavioral Wellness is requesting approval to contract with VPE, an IMD and SNF.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>FY 19-20 Cost:</u></b>
General Fund	
State	\$ 1,000,000
Federal	
Fees	
Other:	
Total	\$ 1,000,000

Narrative: The above referenced contracts are funded by State funds. Funding for these items are included in the FY 2019-2020 proposed budget.

**Key Contract Risks:**

There is a risk that the number of contracted IMD beds may increase beyond what the Department has projected. In this case, the Department will return to the Board of Supervisors to request an increase to the contract maximums where they are needed.

**Special Instructions:**

Please send one (1) complete copy of the contract and one (1) minute order to [cfoschaar@sbcbswell.org](mailto:cfoschaar@sbcbswell.org) and to [bwellcontractsstaff@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:bwellcontractsstaff@co.santa-barbara.ca.us).

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Vista Pacifica Enterprises, Inc. FY 19-20 BC

**Authored by:**

A. Foschaar