



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:** December 14, 2021  
**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 Pamela Fisher, Psy.D., Acting Director  
Director(s) Department of Behavioral Wellness, (805) 681-5220  
Contact Info: Carla Cross, MA. LFT, ART-BC, Manager of Clinical Training  
and Special Projects Department of Behavioral Wellness, (805)  
681-5220  
**SUBJECT:** Behavioral Wellness - California Mental Health Services Authority Memorandum  
of Understanding for Administration and Management Services Workforce  
Training and Education (WET) Southern Counties Regional Partnership (SCRP)  
Loan Repayment Program

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** Risk Management

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the **California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) Memorandum of Understanding No. 1034-WET-2020-SRA** for administration, program management and fiscal services for the Southern Counties Regional Partnership Loan Repayment Program, in accordance with the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development Agreement No. 20-10018, in an amount not to exceed **\$6,853,798.75**, upon execution through June 30, 2025 (Attachment A);
- B. Determine that the approval of the recommended action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), since the recommended action is a government fiscal activity which does not involve commitment to any specific project which may result in potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

**Summary Text:**

The item is on the agenda to request the Board of Supervisors (Board) to approve and authorize Chair to execute the Memorandum of Understanding No. 1031-WET-2020-SRA for the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) to provide administration, program management and fiscal services on behalf of the Department of Behavioral Wellness, Southern Counties Regional Partnership (SCRP) fiscal and administrative agent. In accordance with the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) Agreement No. 20-10018, CalMHSA shall be responsible for executing agreements with Public Mental Health System (PMHS) professionals for educational loan repayment, and tracking, reporting and disbursement of the repayment funds, for the SCRP Loan Repayment Program, a Workforce Education and Training (WET) activity. Services under this MOU shall be provided upon execution through June 30, 2025 and will be compensated in an amount not to exceed \$6,853,798.75 inclusive of an administrative fee.

**Background:**

The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), passed in 2004, levied a 1% tax on annual incomes over \$1 million to increase funding for mental health services. The MHSA included a requirement for each county mental health department to develop a local WET Plan, and to participate in Regional Partnerships formed throughout the State to promote building and improving the local PMHS workforce, education, and training resources, and focus on projects and goals specific to the needs of the region. The SCRCP consists of the public mental health departments of Santa Barbara, San Bernardino, Imperial, Kern, Orange, Riverside, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura counties, as well as the Los Angeles County Tri-City region (Claremont, La Verne, and Pomona). BWell has been a voting member of the SCRCP since its inception in 2009 and has benefited from cultural competency trainings and a core competencies project for licensed therapists, offered through SCRCP.

In December 2014, the Board approved and authorized BWell to serve as the fiscal and administrative agent for the SCRCP and execute the initial MOU with the SCRCP counties to implement WET. Then in May 2020, BWell was nominated by the SCRCP to continue as the fiscal and administrative agent for the SCRCP through 2026 and be the fiscal and administrative agent for the OSHPD grant through 2026, which the Board approved on January 12, 2021, to accept the OSHPD Grant Agreement No. 20-10018 through 2026.

The OSHPD Grant Agreement requires implementation and administration of a Loan Repayment Program to provide educational loan repayment assistance to PMHS professionals that the SCRCP identifies as high priority in the region, considering applicants who previously received scholarships and/or stipends. SCRCP may take into consideration the following factors when determining award amounts: applicants who previously received scholarships and/or stipends, educational attainment, the level of unmet need in the community served, and years of service in the PMHS. SCRCP shall determine the amount they award and length of volunteer or paid work commitment.

BWell is a member of CalMHSA, a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) under Gov. Code §6500 et seq., serving California counties as an independent administrative and fiscal intergovernmental structure for jointly developing, funding, and implementing mental health services and educational programs at the state, regional, and local levels. BWell has several agreements with CalMHSA. BWell as the, SCRCP agent and

OSHPD grantee for SCRCP is seeking the approval of the Board to enter into a MOU with CalMHSA to implement and administer all components of the WET SCRCP Loan Repayment Program, in accordance with the OSHPD Grant Agreement. CalMHSA oversees the administrative services for several programs in collaboration with Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). In accordance with the WET SCRCP MOU, the SCRCP Executive Board has reviewed and approved budget activity to enter into a MOU with CalMHSA for services at their SCRCP meeting November 2020.

While the OSHPD agreement does not terminate until 2026, the current OSHPD Grant budget for the program does not extend past FY 2024-2025 as currently drafted. However, it allows for services to be rendered past Fiscal Year 2024-2025 if a budget revision is submitted and approved before June 30, 2025. If needed to fulfill all the program deliverables beyond FY 24-25, BWell will return to the Board, upon approval of a budget amendment to OSHPD, to extend this program to FY 25-26.

Approval of the recommended actions will allow BWell to execute its functions as the Administrative and Fiscal entity for SCRCP to implement and enhance mental healthcare workforce development strategies aligned with the 2020-2025 WET Five-Year Plan to address regional needs by strengthening recruitment, training, education and retention of PMHS.

**Performance Measure:**

CalMHSA’s administration of this program will result in increased efficiency of the implementation of the program. CalMHSA will maintain all records and provide regular fiscal reports to BWell.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b><u>FY 21-22</u> Cost:</b>	<b><u>FY 22-23</u> Cost:</b>	<b><u>FY 23-24</u> Cost:</b>	<b><u>FY 24-25</u> Cost:</b>	<b><u>Total Funds</u> <u>FY 20-25</u> Cost</b>
General Fund					
State - OSHPD Grant	\$ 3,119,375	\$ 1,704,875	\$ 1,684,750	\$ 344,798.75	\$ 6,853,798.75
State					
Federal					
Fees					
Other:					
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,119,375</b>	<b>\$ 1,704,875</b>	<b>\$ 1,684,750</b>	<b>\$ 344,798.75</b>	<b>\$ 6,853,798.75</b>

Narrative: The Loan Repayment Program funding is provided for in the OSHPD Grant Agreement No. 20-10018 through 2026. OSHPD approved a reallocation of funds amongst the approved WET activities set forth in the OSHPD Grant Agreement No. 20-10018 and allocated \$5,959,825 to the Loan Repayment Program.

**Key Contract Risks:**

Funding for this MOU comes from OSHPD grant funds, which may not be appropriated or which may be withheld pending submission of deliverables or if funds are not encumbered and/or spent 80% of the Agreement funds by July 1, 2024. The MOU has language that allows the County to suspend, delay, or interrupt the services under the MOU for convenience, non-appropriation of funds, or for cause. The MOU requires that County indemnify CalMHSA for claims arising from County’s acts or omissions. The parties otherwise agree to use principles of comparative fault when apportioning any and all losses that may arise out of the performance of the MOU. The County’s MOU with the SCRCP members requires the SCRCP

members to indemnify the County for any liability caused by the SCRP's negligent or intentional acts or omissions.

**Special Instructions:**

Please return one (1) Minute Order and one (1) complete copy of the above Memorandum of Understanding to Denise Morales at [dmorales@sbcbswell.org](mailto:dmorales@sbcbswell.org) and to [bwellcontractsstaff@sbcbswell.org](mailto:bwellcontractsstaff@sbcbswell.org).

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: CalMHSA FY 21-25 SCRP Loan Repayment Agreement No. 1034-WET-2020-SRA

Attachment B: SCRP Minutes and Approval November 2020

Attachment C: OSHPD WET SCRP FY 20-26 Agreement No. 20-10018

**Authored by:**

D. Morales