



**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: August 13, 2019
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: Chris Ribeiro, Chief Financial Officer
Department of Behavioral Wellness 805-681-5220
SUBJECT: Aurora Las Encinas, LLC FYs 19-22 – Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital Services

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, ratify and authorize the Chair to execute a multiyear Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with **Aurora Las Encinas, LLC** (not a local vendor), an Institute for Mental Disease (IMD) for the provision of Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital services and co-occurring disorders, for a total contract maximum amount not to exceed **\$2,100,000** for the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022.
- 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 (BeWell) 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 BeWell’s clients are optimally met. The above item is on the Board’s Agenda to request authorization to execute an Agreement for Services with Aurora Las Encinas for Fiscal Years 2019-2022, for greatly needed psychiatric inpatient hospital services. Approval of the recommended actions will allow BeWell to continue to provide mandated mental health services.

Background:

BeWell 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. BeWell contracts with IMDs that are licensed as Acute Psychiatric Hospitals due to limited bed availability at the County’s Psychiatric Hospital Facility.

Aurora Las Encinas, LLC, located in Pasadena, California, is a psychiatric hospital and provides emergency mental health needs to those clients who are determined to be a danger to themselves or others, or are gravely disabled, pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150, or who meet medical necessity criteria, as defined in the California Code of Regulations Title 9 §1820.205. The current funding projections are based on a caseload of 7 clients per day. Due to an increased demand for inpatient contracted long-term beds, BeWell is requesting approval to contract with Aurora Las Encinas, an IMD, which also provides services to clients with co-occurring disorders in the continuum of care.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Sources	FY 19-20 Cost:	FY 20-21 Cost:	FY 21-22 Cost:	Total FY 19- 22
General Fund				
State	\$ 700,000	\$ 700,000	\$ 700,000	\$ 2,100,000
Federal				
Total	\$ 700,000	\$ 700,000	\$ 700,000	\$ 2,100,000

Narrative: The above referenced contract is funded by State funds. Funding for this item was approved in the FY 2019-2020 budget. Behavioral Wellness will return for Board of Supervisor approval for the FYs 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 budgets.

Key Contract Risks:

There is a risk that the number of contracted IMD beds may increase beyond what BeWell has projected. In this case, BeWell will return to the Board of Supervisors to request an increase to the contract maximum as needed.

Special Instructions:

Please send one (1) complete copy of each executed contract and one (1) minute order to dmorales@co.santa-barbara.ca.us and one (1) of each document to bwelcontractsstaff@co.santa-barbara.ca.us.

Attachments:

Attachment A: ALEH FY 19-22 BC

Authored by:

D. Morales