



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 30, 2016
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) Behavioral Wellness 681-5220
Contact Info: Pam Fisher, PhD, Deputy Director, Chief of Clinical Operations,
Behavioral Wellness 805-681-5220

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 16-17 Behavioral Wellness CHFFA grant evaluation services contract

County Counsel 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 an Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with **Regents of the University of California, (UCSB)** (a local vendor), for the provision evaluation services for the California Health Facilities Financing Authority (CHFFA) grant for Mental Health Crisis Facilities and Crisis Triage services for a maximum contract not to exceed **\$47,121** for the period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.
- B. Determine that the above actions are organizational or administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, pursuant to section 15378(b)(5) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines.

Summary Text:

The Santa Barbara County Behavioral Wellness Department provides a continuum of mental health crisis services to Santa Barbara County residents, in part through grant funding. However, grant funding sources require robust data collection and analysis about clients receiving funded services, both during and for periods following program completion, and encourages independent evaluators as a prerequisite for grant awards. Approval of the recommended actions will allow Behavioral Wellness to obtain independent evaluation services as required by the County for the CHFFA Grant, through 2017.

Background:

On June 2014, the Board of Supervisors approved the acceptance of Behavioral Wellness grant funding awarded by CHFFA for the SB 82 Investment in Mental Health Wellness Act of 2013 which made available Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) dollars to expand access to needed crisis services including medical, mental health, substance use disorder assistance and other community services statewide. The services were expected to lead to improved life outcomes for the persons served and improved system outcomes for local mental health departments and their community partners and to reduce costs. The grant allowed Behavioral Wellness to build on our existing crisis response system and improve the provision of timely, effective, and lasting interventions via the addition of Crisis Triage personnel with a focus on recovery and resiliency.

This field-based triage workforce allows for a proactive program that emphasizes treatment in the least restrictive manner through early intervention, case management, peer support and clinical care before, during and after a crisis event. This program focuses on helping individuals break recurring cycles of incarceration, extended visits to the Emergency Room, psychiatric hospital stays, or homelessness.

The CHFFA grant requires robust data collection and analysis about clients receiving funded services to evaluate the program effectiveness and encourages independent evaluators as a prerequisite for grant awards. The evaluation of the Behavioral Wellness program effectiveness will include the following information on the Behavioral Wellness' goal and objects for:

- a. Increased triage personnel and or improved crisis response system;
- b. Systems indicators, measures and outcomes that Behavioral Wellness used to track to document the effectiveness of services;
- c. Evaluation analysis and findings about whether specific system and individual outcomes have been attained.

UCSB has been providing this evaluation service for the Behavioral Wellness CHFAA Evaluation since FY 2014. UCSB Graduate School is a recognized authority on the evaluation of clinical psychology practices and has a long history of success evaluating and advising practices for a variety of mental health and alcohol and drug service agencies.

The approval of the recommended action will allow Behavioral Wellness to evaluate our Crisis Service System for acute psychiatric needs, meet stated goals and outcomes of reducing psychiatric use of the Emergency Rooms and reducing overall inpatient acute admission rates.

Performance Measure:

UCSB CHFFA – Completed and submitted all required reports in a timely manner for analysis of:

- Reduction in psychiatric use of Emergency Rooms
- Reduction in inpatient acute psychiatric admissions
- Reduction of recidivism
- Reduction in overall associated costs
- Improved and effective linkage with necessary outpatient mental health services.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>		<u>FY 16-17</u>
General Fund		
State	\$	23,560.50
Federal	\$	23,560.50
Fees		
Other:		
Total	\$	47,121.00

Narrative: There is no increase in General Fund contributions and no match requirements for this grant, as it is fully funded by CHFFA. The funding sources are included in the FY 2016-2017 Adopted Budget.

Key Contract Risks:

As with any contract funded by State and Federal sources, there is a risk of future audit disallowances and repayments. There is the risk that the State will disallow service or determine costs to be non-allowable, resulting in repayment. Behavioral Wellness contracts include language requiring contractors to repay any amounts disallowed in audit findings, minimizing financial risks to County.

Special Instructions:

Please send one (1) signature page and one (1) minute order to: admhscontractsstaff@co.santa-barbara.ca.us.

Attachments:

Attachment A: UCSB FY 16-17 CHFFA Contract

Authored by:

D.Morales