



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 28, 2022
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Antonette Navarro, LMFT, Director
Director(s) Department of Behavioral Wellness, (805) 681-5220
Contact Info: Dr. Ole Behrendtsen, Medical Director
Department of Behavioral Wellness, (805) 681-5220

SUBJECT: Behavioral Wellness- SHC Services, Inc., DBA Supplemental Health Care Services, Inc., Healthcare Recruitment and Placement Services Board Contract FY 21-22 and FY 22-23

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 an Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with **SHC Services, Inc., DBA Supplemental Healthcare Services, Inc.**, (not a local vendor), for the provision of healthcare recruitment and placement services, for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023, with a maximum value not to exceed \$415,000 for FY 21-22, and \$226,100 for FY 22-23, for a total contract maximum amount not to exceed **\$641,100** for FY 21-23, inclusive of Purchase Order CN24556 in the amount of \$185,000, but which otherwise cancels, nullifies, and supersedes Purchase Order CN24556;
- B. Delegate to the Director of the Department of Behavioral Wellness or designee the authority to suspend, delay, or interrupt the services under the Agreement for convenience per Section 20 of the Agreement and make immaterial changes to the Agreement per Section 26 of the Agreement, all without altering the Maximum Contract Amount and without requiring the Board's approval of an amendment of the Agreement, subject to the Board's ability to rescind this delegated authority at any time; and
- C. Determine that the above actions are government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project that may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment and are therefore not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA Guidelines.

Summary Text:

The above-referenced item is on the agenda to request approval of the Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with SHC Services, Inc. (SHC) for the provision of healthcare recruitment and placement services. The Department of Behavioral Wellness (BWell) currently contracts with SHC for healthcare recruitment and placement services under a Purchase Order (CN24556) in the amount of \$185,000 for FY 21-22. Over the course of this fiscal year, the need for qualified health professionals has been increasing in demand. BWell is requesting to enter into this agreement for a total maximum value not to exceed \$415,000 for FY 21-22, inclusive of Purchase Order CN24556 in the amount of \$185,000, but which otherwise cancels, nullifies, and supersedes Purchase Order CN24556.

BWell is also requesting that the County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors (BOS) approve of the extension of the Board contract end date to June 30, 2023 and the addition of funds in the amount of \$226,100 for FY 22-23, for a total contract maximum amount not to exceed **\$641,100** for FY 21-23.

Background:

BWell provides a continuum of mental health and substance use disorder services to Santa Barbara County residents, including psychiatric and nursing services at its County facilities. Across the nation, there is an ongoing shortage of psychiatric and nursing services. BWell has experienced ongoing challenges that mirror the national challenges of attracting and retaining qualified registered nurses to work at BWell facilities.

BWell currently uses SHC to recruit and recommend locum tenens Psychiatric Nurses at BWell facilities, at the request of BWell staff. The locum tenens Psychiatric Nurses recruited by SHC provide mandated psychiatric nursing services such as; diagnostic evaluations, medication evaluations, prescriptions for psychiatric medications; review, revision and approval of client assessments; and participation in the development, review, revision, and approval of client treatment plans.

Due to the maximum threshold limit under the current Purchase Order and staffing needs at BWell's Psychiatric Health Facility, a Board Contract with SHC is needed to allow for the continued placement of qualified health professionals at BWell facilities, to ensure that the needs of clients are met. In addition, the need for temporary Psychiatric Nursing staff is increasing due to turnover of Mental Health services personnel within BWell as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Furthermore, there is a noted decrease in recruitment for permanent nursing staff within BWell, leading to the need for temporary nursing staff.

Approval of the recommended actions will allow for SHC to continue to place needed staff to fulfill psychiatric health services, allowing Behavioral Wellness to continue to provide mandated mental health services to BWell clients.

Performance Outcomes

SHC staff are performing in line with the County's civil service providers and services are being provided in accordance with generally accepted practices. SHC staff participate in medical staff meetings, are part of medical staff meeting peer reviews, and respond appropriately to communications and clinical feedback.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Sources	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	Total FY 21-23 Cost
General Fund			
State	\$ 207,500.00	\$ 113,050.00	
Federal	\$ 207,500.00	\$ 113,050.00	
Fees		\$ -	
Other:		\$ -	
Total	\$ 415,000.00	\$ 226,100.00	\$ 641,100.00

Narrative: The above-referenced contract is funded by State and Federal funds. The funding source is included in the FY 2021-2022 Adopted Budget. Subsequent funding will be included in the FY 22-23 proposed budget and will be contingent upon Board approval.

Key Contract Risks:

With any contractor providing temporary staffing services, there is a risk that temporary personnel will make errors, engage in misconduct, or be negligent in the performance of assigned duties. BWell may terminate the agreement for cause or convenience, and the contractor provides professional liability insurance for the professionals to mitigate these risks. In addition, the County pays only the contractor’s fees when the County utilizes a healthcare professional referred by the contractor; there are no monthly fees attached to this agreement.

Special Instructions:

Please email one (1) complete signed Board Contract and one (1) Minute Order to Amber Foschaar at cfoschaar@sbcbswell.org and to bwelcontractsstaff@co.santa-barbara.ca.us.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: SHC Services, Inc., FY 21-23 Board Contract
- Attachment B: SHC Services, Inc., FY 21-22 Purchase Order (CN24556)

Authored by:

A. Foschaar/M. Johnson