

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY  
BOARD AGENDA LETTER**



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Agenda Number:**  
**Prepared on:** 04/14/2004  
**Department Name:** Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health  
**Department No.:** 043  
**Agenda Date:** 05/04/2004  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimate Time:**  
**Continued Item:** NO  
**If Yes, date from:**

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** James L. Broderick, Ph.D., Director  
Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health Services

**STAFF CONTACT:** Carrie Topliffe, ADMHS Assistant Director - Administration  
805.681.5231

**SUBJECT:** Sylmar Health and Rehabilitation Center, Seneca Residential and Day Treatment Center, Sierra Vista Rehabilitation Center, and Aurora Vista Del Mar Contract Amendments

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**Recommendation(s):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Approve and execute an amendment to the Sylmar Health and Rehabilitation Center (Sylmar) contract (not a local vendor), in the amount of \$43,000, for the remaining term of the existing contract, dated July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004, resulting in a new maximum contract amount of \$135,000.
- B. Approve and execute an amendment to the Seneca Residential and Day Treatment Center (Seneca) contract (not a local vendor), in the amount of \$103,000, for the remaining term of the existing contract, dated July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004, resulting in a new maximum contract amount of \$150,000.
- C. Approve and execute an amendment to the Sierra Vista Rehabilitation Center (Sierra Vista) contract (not a local vendor), in the amount of \$83,000, for the remaining term of the existing contract, dated July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004, resulting in a new maximum contract amount of \$182,900.
- D. Approve and execute an amendment to the Aurora Vista Del Mar (Aurora) Contract (not a local vendor), in the amount of \$350,000 for the remaining term of the existing contract, dated July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004, resulting in a new maximum contract amount of \$475,000.

### **Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:**

The recommendation(s) are primarily aligned with Goal No. 2. A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work and Visit.

### **Executive Summary and Discussion:**

Sylmar is an Institute for Mental Disease (IMD) used for psychiatrically impaired, county referred adult clients who require a locked facility. Sylmar experienced an unexpected increase in ADMHS usage due to clients being shifted there from other Southern California IMDs that either closed or entered exclusive contracts with other Southern California Counties. Funds from the other IMDs contracts that have been reduced are being used to offset this increased usage.

Seneca provides services for children including day treatment, mental health services, therapeutic behavioral services and medical support services for children experiencing Severe Emotional Disturbances (SED). The original contract amount was based on a projection of one child needing the services Seneca provides. Demand for Seneca's services has unexpectedly increased. Two children have been placed there and are not expected to transition out this fiscal year.

Sierra Vista is also an IMD used for psychiatrically impaired, county referred adult clients who require a locked facility to benefit from active rehabilitation services. ADMHS has been able to transfer to this IMD, clients who were staying at the more expensive County Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF). This facility has also proven to be a cost effective alternative to other, more expensive IMDs. These cost reductions allow ADMHS to use that funding for this contract.

Aurora Vista Del Mar provides adult and adolescent acute Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital Services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries exhibiting severe mental illness (SMI) and SED. These services include routine hospital services and all hospital-based ancillary services. Intensive Psychiatric Inpatient Day Services are hospital services and hospital-based ancillary services provided to clients requiring one-to-one intensive supervision. Intensive one-to-one staffing may be ordered by an attending physician should the client meet the threshold of medical necessity.

In FY 2003-04, Aurora Vista Del Mar became the primary acute inpatient hospital providing services to clients in need of hospitalization once the PHF was at capacity. The nature and extent of the services provided was studied and the quality of care was found to be good. As a result, additional referrals were made to Aurora Vista Del Mar instead of to other, far away, out-of-county placements.

Aurora Vista Del Mar also began taking clients previously committed to the State Hospital and managing those clients in a less costly, more geographically desirable location. Bringing a client back into the area from the State Hospital, in addition to reducing costs, results in better treatment, rehabilitation, and recovery options due to a closer connection with the community and closer proximity to family members. This will ultimately result in better outcomes for community members experiencing SMI.

This year ADMHS experienced an unanticipated increase in involuntary hospitalizations. This, combined with scarce local resources and a PHF that is nearly always at capacity, resulted in a significant percentage of

individuals with acute SMI and SED being placed in IMDs and acute residential treatment facilities around the state.

Your Board is now requested to approve and execute the amendments to: the Sylmar contract in the amount of \$43,000, the Seneca contract in the amount of \$103,000, for the Sierra Vista contract in the amount of \$83,000, and for Aurora Vista Del Mar in the amount of \$350,000, to continue funding for acute inpatient hospitalization for those experiencing SMI and SED. Funding these contract amendments will enable ADMHS to continue providing IMD and mental health services to those Santa Barbara County residents experiencing Severe Mental Illness and Severe Emotional Disturbance.

**Mandates and Service Levels:**

Mental Health Services are mandated by the Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 5600.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

The recommended action has no impact on the General Fund Contribution. The funding sources for the increased contract expenditures are from savings realized by canceling or reducing contracts with other service providers. These funding sources are identified in the Adopted FY2003-04, Budget, line item 7460, in the Children's Services Division on page D-150, and in the Adult Services Division page D-142.

These actions will not result in a need for any additional facilities.

**Special Instructions:**

Please send one (1) fully executed amendment and endorsed minute order to:

Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health Services  
ATTN: Dana Fahey, Contracts Analyst  
300 N. San Antonio Road  
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

**Concurrence:**

Auditor-Controller  
Risk Management