



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: September 17, 2019
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Alice Gleghon, PhD, Director
Director(s) Department of Behavioral Wellness, 805-681-5220
Contact Info: Dr. Ole Behrendtsen, Medical Director
Behavioral Wellness, 681-5220

SUBJECT: Behavioral Wellness – Sterling Care Psychiatric, Inc. Staffing Contract, FYs 19-22

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

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 **Sterling Care Psychiatric Group, Inc.** (not a local vendor) for the provision of psychiatry and nursing staffing services to increase the maximum contract amount for FY 2019-2020 to \$1,331,000, inclusive of Purchase Order CN23253 for \$200,000, but which otherwise cancels, nullifies, and supersedes Purchase Order CN23253; and to extend the term of the Agreement into Fiscal Year 2021-2022, for a new total contract maximum amount not to exceed **\$4,045,400** (inclusive of the \$1,331,000 for FY 19-20, \$1,357,200 for FY 20-21, and \$1,357,200 for FY 21-22) for the period of August 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022;
- B. Approve and authorize the Behavioral Wellness Director to make immaterial changes to the agreement pursuant to Section 25 of the agreement; and amend Exhibit A (Statement of Work) and Exhibit B-1 (Schedule of Rates) to add hourly positions and approve rate changes not exceeding 10% of the rate currently in Exhibit B-1, without returning to the Board with a separate amendment, so long as the total contract maximum is unchanged, and subject to the Board's authority to rescind this delegation at any time; and

- C. Determine that the above actions are government fiscal activities or funding mechanisms which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in potentially 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:

County executed a Purchase Order CN23253 with Sterling Care Psychiatry Group, Inc. (Sterling) in the amount of \$200,000 for Fiscal Year 2019-2020, for the provision of psychiatry and nursing staffing services. During the term of that Purchase Order, County anticipates that Sterling will provide, at the request of the County, a greater number of services than originally contemplated by Purchase Order CN23253, and will incur total expenses beyond the value of Purchase Order CN23253 in excess of \$200,000. This item is on the agenda to request that the Board enter into an Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Sterling for a contract maximum amount not to exceed \$4,045,400 (inclusive of the \$1,331,000 for FY 19-20, \$1,357,200 for FY 20-21, and \$1,357,200 for FY 21-22) for the period of August 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022, and which otherwise cancels, nullifies, and supersedes Purchase Order CN23253.

Approval of the recommended actions will allow Behavioral Wellness to continue to provide mandated and greatly needed psychiatry and nursing services in Santa Barbara County without disruption to services.

Background:

Behavioral Wellness has experienced continuing difficulty recruiting and retaining psychiatrists and mental health nurse practitioners to the area. Although the County maintains an ongoing recruitment for these positions, it rarely produces enough qualified candidates to meet departmental needs. Behavioral Wellness uses temporary staffing and recruitment agencies to fill these ongoing needs for psychiatric staff at its facilities. Sterling is a collaborative of skilled medical professionals that will provide psychiatrists and nurse practitioners to backfill vacancies at the Psychiatric Health Facility, Behavioral Wellness clinics, and at other Behavioral Wellness programs as needed.

Performance Measure:

Sterling's goal is to provide psychiatric and nurse practitioner staff according to the following outcomes and measures:

- Staff productivity should be 50% of time for client services and documented 70% of time.
- Staff attendance is required at all trainings.
- Clinical notes should be finalized within 24 hours for acute services and 72 hours for general services.

Since August 1, 2019, Behavioral Wellness has continuously employed three psychiatrists and two nurse practitioners from Sterling in Santa Barbara and Santa Maria Outpatient locations. Staff referred from Sterling are of high caliber and are performing the requested services in an exceptional manner.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Sources	FY 19-20	Fy 20-21	FY 21-22	Total Contract Amount
General Fund				
State	\$ 1,331,000	\$ 1,357,200	\$ 1,357,200	
Federal				
Fees				
Other:				
Total	\$1,331,000	\$ 1,357,200	\$ 2,688,200	\$4,045,400

Narrative: The above referenced contracts are funded by State funds. The funding sources are included in the FY 2019-2020 Adopted Budget and anticipated to be fully funded in future year’s budgets.

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 performance of assigned duties. The contract allows Behavioral Wellness to terminate individual temporary staff for cause, and requires that the agency provide Professional Liability insurance to mitigate these risks.

Special Instructions:

Please return one (1) Minute Order and one (1) complete copy of the contract to the BWell Contracts Division at bwellcontractsstaff@co.santa-barbara.ca.us and cshurland@co.santa-barbara.ca.us.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Sterling Care Psychiatric Group BC
- Attachment B: Sterling Care Psychiatric Group CN23253

Authored by:

Q. Lopez and L. Walter