



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:** May 19, 2020  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Alice Gleghorn, PhD, Director  
Director(s) Department of Behavioral Wellness, 805-681-5220  
Contact Info: Ole Behrendtsen, MD, Medical Director, 805-681-5220  
**SUBJECT:** Behavioral Wellness Renewal Contractor on Payroll (COP) Agreement FY 20-21:  
Daniel Litten, M.D.

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**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 and authorize the Chair to execute a Contractor on Payroll Agreement with **Daniel Litten, M.D.** to provide support and internal medicine services for the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed **\$60,000**;
- B. 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 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 Department of Behavioral Wellness (BeWell) provides specialty mental health services to adults with mental illness and children with serious emotional disturbances, in part, through contracted providers, including Contractors on Payroll (COP). The above-referenced contract complies with the Santa Barbara County Contractor on Payroll Policy, approved by the Board of Supervisors on October 20, 2015. Approval of the above-referenced contract will ensure the continued provision of critical mental health and related services during FY 20-21.

**Background:**

BeWell has experienced continuing difficulty recruiting and retaining psychiatrists, qualified Registered Nurses, and other individuals who are certified and licensed to provide specialty and ancillary mental health services to the area. Although the County maintains an ongoing recruitment for psychiatrists, psychiatric nurses, and individuals certified and licensed to provide ancillary mental health services, it rarely produces enough qualified candidates to meet departmental needs. COPs have helped to bridge the gap to provide needed mental health treatment capacity.

**Daniel Litten, M.D.** provides support services for mandated on-call and independent evaluations at the Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU), during use of seclusion and restraints at the Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF), and 5250 certification evaluations at the PHF. Support services include being on-call Monday through Friday, 10:00 PM to 7:00 AM, and for twenty-four (24) hours on Saturday and Sunday, including holidays. In addition, Dr. Litten works with PHF and CSU staff to provide: patient diagnosis; behavior requiring seclusion/restraint or both; medical prescriptions; patient interviews, and notations on the designated seclusion/restraint form. Dr. Litten also provides: on-call and as scheduled internal medicine duties, which include the provision of complete medical histories and physicals for PHF inpatients and CSU outpatients within twenty-four (24) hours and follow-up medical care.

The attached COP agreement meets the requirements of Government Code section 7522.56, limiting the maximum number of hours and the maximum allowable hourly rate payable for COPs who are retirees of the County and who perform work as a contractor for the County, and Government Code sections 53260 and 53243.2, limiting the amount of cash settlement in the event of termination of the agreement, and requiring reimbursement of any cash settlement related to the termination of the COP if the COP is convicted of a crime involving an abuse of the COP's position with the County.

**Performance Measure:**

1. Clients maintaining safe and stable living environments;
2. Decrease hospitalizations;
3. Increase access to care; and
4. Decrease number of incarcerations.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>FY 20-21 Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u></b>
General Fund			
State	\$30,000.00		
Federal	\$30,000.00		
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$60,000.00	\$ -	\$ -

Narrative: The above referenced contract is funded by a combination of State and Federal revenue. The funding sources have been included in the FY 20-21 Proposed Budget.

**Key Contract Risks:**

As with any contract funded by State and Federal sources, there is a risk of future Medi-Cal audit disallowances. However, BeWell provides training to the Contractor to minimizing financial risks to the County.

**Special Instructions:**

Please return one (1) Minute Order and one (1) complete copy of the contract for each of the above to [cfoschaar@sbcbswell.org](mailto:cfoschaar@sbcbswell.org), [bwelcontractsstaff@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:bwelcontractsstaff@co.santa-barbara.ca.us), and Stefan Brewer, Employment and Workforce Planning Division, Human Resources Department.

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Daniel Litten, M.D., Contractor on Payroll Agreement FY 20-21

**Authored by:**

A. Foschaar