



**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

Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: Behavioral Wellness
Department No.: 043
Agenda Date: December 16, 2025
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s): Antonette Navarro, LMFT, Director
Department of Behavioral Wellness
Contact: Katie Cohen, Psy. D., LMFT, Assistant Director of
Clinical Operations, Department of Behavioral Wellness
SUBJECT: First Amendment to the Services Agreement with the Santa Barbara County
Education Office for Mental Health Services for School-Based Programs for Fiscal
Years 2022-2025

DS
AN

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 a First Amendment to the Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with **Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO) (BC 22-194)** to update certain standard terms and conditions and program budget requirements to comply with state requirements or business needs; extend the term of the Agreement to end on March 31, 2028; reduce the number of Navigators to 4.50 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) within the Behavioral Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (formerly Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC)) Behavioral Health Student Services Act (formerly Mental Health Student Services Act (MHSSA)) Program (Exhibit A-1), terminate the now BHSOAC BHSSA Program, effective December 31, 2026; add the Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (BHSOAC) Behavioral Health Student Services Act (BHSSA) Round 4, Categories 3 and 4 Program (Exhibit A-2), effective March 28, 2025; update Standard Indemnification and Insurance Provisions; add Addendum BHSOAC Grant Agreements #24MHSOAC018, #24MHSOAC018.A1, #24MHSOAC057 and #MHSOAC057.A1 (Exhibit G); and increase the

contract amount by \$390,386, for a revised total maximum contract amount not to exceed **\$1,983,918**, for the period of January 1, 2023, through March 31, 2028, contingent upon the Board's approval of BHSOAC Grant Agreement Amendments #24MHSOAC018.A1 and #24MHSOAC057.A1 at the December 16, 2025 Board hearing; and

- b) Delegate authority to the Director of the Department of Behavioral Wellness or designee to make changes to staffing requirements per Exhibits A-1 and A-2; all without altering the total maximum contract amount and without requiring the Board of Supervisors' ability to rescind the delegated authority at any time; and
- c) Determine that the above-recommended actions are not a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(4), finding that the actions are governmental funding mechanisms and/or fiscal activities that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to request the Board of Supervisors' approval to execute a First Amendment to the Agreement for Services with Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO) for FY 2022-25. This Amendment extends the terms of the Agreement to end March 31, 2028. It also terminates the BHSOAC BHSSA (formerly MHSOAC MHSSA) Program effective December 31, 2026,

Additionally, the Amendment adds new Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (BHSOAC) Behavioral Health Student Services (BHSSA) Round 4, Categories 3 and 4 Program services, effective March 28, 2025. These program services are funded through BHSOAC grant agreements #24MHSOAC018 and #24MHSOAC057. SBCEO is a subcontractor under the BHSSA grant award with Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (BHSOAC) (Formerly the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC)).

Under the BHSOAC BHSSA Round 4, Categories 3 and 4 Program, Behavioral Wellness (BWell) shall provide 1.0 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Quality Improvement and Sustainability (QIS) Coordinator, to collaborate with SBCEO in facilitating school and community evaluations. This role supports long-term financial stability for BHSSA services in Santa Barbara County and is funded under Category 3. This Program also funds a 0.90 FTE Navigator to SBCEO to expand school staff training on warning signs, risks and mandated reporting requirements through the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) program, funded by Category 4.

This Amendment also requests to increase the maximum contract amount by \$390,386, for a revised total maximum contract amount of \$1,983,918, inclusive of \$90,386 for BHSOAC BHSSA Program services for FY 2025-26, and \$300,000 from the BHSOAC Category 4 grant for Navigator services, for the period of January 1, 2023, through March 31, 2028.

Discussion:

The request to extend the terms of the Agreement to March 31, 2028, is in alignment with the addition of the new Program Services for the BHSOAC Round 4 Categories 3 and 4 grant agreements, and contingent upon the Board's approval of BHSOAC's grant Amendments #24MHSOAC018.A1 and #24MHSOAC027.A1 to extend the end date of the grant agreements through March, 31, 2028. This extension shall allow time for recipients to expend all funds made available through these grant agreements.

Addition of these Program services will provide SBCEO access to 1.0 FTE BWELL provided Quality Improvement and Sustainability (QIS) Coordinator for the purpose of facilitating financial sustainability for BHSSA services in Santa Barbara County, funded by the BHSOAC Round 4 Category 3 (Sustainability) Grant Agreement (24MHSOAC018). This Program will also provide SBCEO 0.90 FTE Navigator for the purpose of providing services to school staff for training on sexual exploitation of children and youth through the CSEC program. This is funded by the BHSOAC Round 4 Category 4 (Other Priorities) Grant Agreement (No. 24MHSOAC057).

The existing BHSOAC BHSSA (formerly MHSOAC MHSSA) Program ends on December 31, 2026, in alignment with the passing of Proposition 1 in March of 2024, requiring programs with MHSA funding to terminate by December 31, 2026.

Background:

On December 13, 2022, the Board of Supervisors approved entering into an Agreement for Services with Independent Contractor, Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO), to provide mental health services for children and youth through school-based programs, for a total maximum contract amount of \$1,593,532 for the period of January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2025. SBCEO is a subcontractor of the Navigator program under the MHSSA grant awards #19MHSOAC082, A.1 and A.2) with BHSOAC.

Mental Health services for children and youth under the Agreement are coordinated through a Partnership Group that is co-facilitated by BWELL and SBCEO, providing activities including suicide prevention, drop-out prevention, placement assistance for students with higher levels of care needs, and outreach to high-risk youth including foster, LGBTQ+, and students removed from the school environment via suspension and/or expulsion. Grant funding is also used in administrative and supervisory duties and to cover the needs of Navigator Supervisor duties, mileage, outreach materials and trainings for schools and BHSSA staff, countywide.

On February 22, 2024, the BHSOAC approved expenditure of funds from the fourth round of BHSSA competitive-grant funding, with a total of \$25,000,000 awarded. The County was awarded \$749,650 in BHSOAC Grant funds, inclusive of \$449,650 under Category 3 (Sustainability) funding, and \$300,000 under Category 4 (Other Priorities) funding, for the continued provision of mental health services for children and youth through school-based programs provided from March 4, 2025, through December 31, 2027. On March 4, 2025, the Board of Supervisors approved to execute multi-year Agreements with BHSOAC for both Categories 3 (#24MHSOAC018) and 4 (MHSOAC057).

Through the Category 3 (Sustainability) Agreement the County of Santa Barbara will provide SBCEO, a Quality Improvement and Sustainability (QIS) Coordinator, contracted by BWELL, to identify resources, while also keeping track of the rapidly changing funding landscape, to ensure the successful pursuit of secured funding for BHSSA services in Santa Barbara County.

Under the Category 4 (Other Priorities) Agreement (24MHSOAC057), BWELL will provide funding to SBCEO for 0.90 FTE Navigator, for the expansion of services to provide school staff with training on sexual exploitation of children and youth through the CSEC program. The CSEC program will be provided through the Mental Wellness Education & Linkages (MWEL) Program to educate school staff on warning signs, risk factors, reducing stigma, and mandated reported requirements.

Performance Measures:

MHSSA Program provides services that address the following goals:

1. Preventing mental illness from becoming severe and disabling.
2. Improving timely access to services for underserved populations.

3. Providing outreach to families, employers, primary health care providers, and others to recognize the early signs of potentially severe and disabling mental illness.
4. Reducing the stigma associated with the diagnosis of a mental illness or seeking mental health services.
5. Reducing discrimination against people with mental illness; and
6. Preventing negative outcomes in the targeted population including, but not limited to: suicide and attempted suicide, incarceration, school failure/dropout, unemployment, prolonged suffering, homelessness, removal of children from their homes, and involuntary mental health detentions.

Performance Outcomes:

In the current year, the project focuses on sustainability planning and expansion throughout the remainder of the County. The team has begun providing training to school staff, youth and parents on various topics related to mental health and community resources. The program continues to provide outreach in the community through school events, raise awareness of resources in the community and provide education materials about mental wellness. The Health Navigators this year are placed on some school sites and will be providing groups to youth on various topics around skills building including mindfulness, self-care, conflict resolution, and communication. Since the program start on January 1, 2023, the collaborative partnership served a total of seven hundred and seventy-nine (779) referrals, provided 1,519 group services, and successfully linked 54% of referrals to ongoing mental health services. Of these referrals, 95% were linked to the appropriate level of care for outpatient services (50% for non-specialty mental health care vs. 43% for specialty mental health care). Among those referred to non-mental health resources, 51% received support for basic services, including general assistance with food, family employment, financial assistance and Medi-Cal application assistance. The MHSSA program held 120 Outreach events with 7,415 participants in attendance. The MHSSA program and partners hold a monthly collaborative meeting for the school liaisons/Navigators and community partners that take place virtually to allow for cross-county participation. The MHSSA program is in collaboration with a partner agency to propose a Youth Advocacy Group cross-county.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Source	FY 23-24	FY 24-25	FY 25-26	FY 26-27	FY 27-28	Total
General Fund						
State	\$414,145	\$571,568	\$812,424	\$92,890	\$92,891	\$1,983,918
Federal						
Fees						
[Other Source]						
Total	\$414,145	\$571,568	\$812,424	\$92,890	\$92,891	\$1,983,918

This table combines the original MHSSA Grant funds remaining with the newly awarded Category 4 BHSSA Grant funds. Funding from the original MHSSA Grant funds is provided to SBCEO for Program Services for FY 2025-26 for the BHSOAC BHSSA Program. Funding from the Category 3

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BHSOAC Grant funds will be provided to SBCEO for Navigator services as laid out in the BHSOAC BHSSA Round 4, Categories 3 and 4 Program. There are no General Fund or other Behavioral Wellness discretionary funds for this program.

Special Instructions:

Please email one (1) Minute Order and one (1) complete copy of the executed Amendment to Sara Hernandez at sahernandez@sbcbswell.org, and the BWell Contracts Division at bwellcontractsstaff@sbcbswell.org.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Santa Barbara County Education Office FY 2022-25 Amendment 1

Attachment B – Santa Barbara County Education Office FY 2022-25 Agreement (BC22194), Executed

Contact Information:

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Contract Analyst
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