



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 3, 2022
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
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: John Doyel, MA, LAADC, Division Chief, Alcohol and Drug
Programs, Department of Behavioral Wellness (805) 681-5220
**SUBJECT: Behavioral Wellness – Santa Maria Joint Union High School District Agreement
for Fiscal Year 2021 - 2024**

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 **Santa Maria Joint Union High School District** in support of Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) Grant Award No. 963-21 Proposition 64 Public Health and Safety Grant Program to implement the Alcohol and Drug Program (ADP) Brief Risk Reduction Interview and Intervention Model Student Assistance Program (BRRIM/SAP) to decrease youth cannabis use through prevention and early intervention in schools for the period of April 1, 2022 through April 30, 2024 with each party bearing its own program costs and expenses (Attachment A);
- B. Delegate to the Director of the Department of Behavioral Wellness or designee the authority to: to suspend, delay, or interrupt the services under the Agreement for convenience per Section 20 of the Agreement; make immaterial changes to the Agreement per Section 26 of the Agreement, and amend the program goals, outcomes, and/or measures described in this Exhibit E by agreement in writing, all 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 action is a government fiscal activity or funding mechanism which does not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and is therefore not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA Guidelines.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to request that the Board of Supervisors approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Santa Maria Joint Union High School District (SMJUHS) for the implementation of prevention and early intervention in schools to decrease cannabis use among youth over a four-year period with each party bearing their own program costs and expenses. Approval of the recommended action will allow the Department of Behavioral Wellness (BWell) to fulfill grant program requirements to expand access to Alcohol and Drug Program (ADP) and decrease cannabis use amongst youth in partnership with schools and youth.

Background:

On May 18, 2021 the Board of Supervisors approved the four-year agreement with BSCC Grant Award No. 963-21 in the amount of \$959,895 for the period of May 1, 2021 through October 31, 2024 (Attachment B). BWell's ADP proposed a three-pronged approach to combat youth cannabis use. BWell hired two and a half (2.5 FTE) Alcohol and Drug Services Specialists (ADSS) to assist with the development of Student Assistance Programs and peer leaders to provide prevention and early intervention in schools (virtually and in-person) with direct linkages to higher levels of care as needed, which was approved by the Board in November 2021. ADP also partnered with Public Health for youth-driven social media campaigns to increase the perception of harm around cannabis use.

According to Lucille Packard Foundation, Santa Barbara County has one of the highest cannabis use rates among youth in the State. Schools currently do not have the resources needed to provide youth with robust cannabis education, prevention, and early intervention programs and staff may be unaware of community resources when students need a referral to services. While some schools have a SRO program, officers have limited resources to help address issues around cannabis use. BWell's ADP funding sources are limited to Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant funding for clients who meet medical necessity for treatment.

However, there is still a significant gap within schools when coordinating linkages to services for youth prevention and treatment services. Adolescents especially do not have access to adequate prevention, screening, early intervention, and referral resources since those resources do not exist in their natural environments and they lack direct connection with resources outside of their communities. The CalSCHLS (formerly California Healthy Kids Survey) data (2018) revealed in a 30-day survey that cannabis usage rates are as follows: 10% of users were in 9th grade, 17% in 11th grade, and 36% were non-traditional students. There was a 7% increase in cannabis use by 11th-grade students.

BWell will collaborate with schools to provide a foundation for Student Assistance Programs (SAP), which will provide a full array of primary and secondary prevention, support groups, screening, care coordination, and Services Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT). SAPs will be led by peer leaders within the schools to address cannabis use among students.

With Board approval of the recommended actions, ADP will assign the ADSS staff and peer leaders to collaborate with SMJUHS School Resource Officers (SRO) when students face disciplinary action, in addition to facilitating training for students, school staff, and SROs, parents, and community members about the impacts of youth cannabis use. This comprehensive approach will be supported by existing ADP and BWell programs with a focus on program sustainability well beyond grant funding.

Performance Measure:

Grant award recipients are required to submit progress reports to the BSCC. Progress reports are a critical element in the BSCC’s monitoring and oversight process.

The BSCC grant is to be used to provide prevention and early intervention services to achieve the following goals:

1. Develop a support system for school districts and students by implementing Student Assistance Programs to identify and coordinate referrals and subsequent engagement with early intervention and treatment programs.
2. Increase the perception of the harms of marijuana use for youth by utilizing a peer-to-peer model.
3. Develop and implement early intervention and treatment support systems for marijuana substance abuse for middle and high school students.
4. Reduce marijuana consumption by utilizing local media campaigns to educate youth on the impacts of use.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes.

Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative: The above-referenced contract is funded through BSCC State Grant funds No. 963-21 to cover BWell’s costs. The Board approved a staffing resolution in November 2021 for the Department to hire an Alcohol and Drug Services Specialist as Extra Help to implement this portion of the grant.

Key Contract Risks:

The Grant Agreement includes a budget contingency clause obligating the BSCC to pay funds contingent upon the availability of sufficient funds. If sufficient funds are not available, the BSCC has the option of either cancelling the Grant Agreement or offering an amendment to the agreement in a reduced amount. If the Grant Agreement is cancelled, or the County does not accept the amended agreement, the Grant Agreement shall no longer be in full force and effect, and the County may cease providing services at SMJUHSD.

Special Instructions:

Please return one (1) Minute Order and one (1) complete copy of the contract to dmorales@sbcwell.org and bwelcontractsstaff@co.santa-barbara.ca.us.

Attachments:

Attachment A: SMJUHSD FY 21-24 BC

Authored by:

D. Morales