



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: Auditor-Controller
Department No.: 061
For Agenda Of: December 8, 2015
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Robert W. Geis, CPA, Auditor-Controller, 568-2100
Director(s)
Contact Info: Heather Fletcher, CPA, Audit Manager, 568-2456

SUBJECT: County Contracts with Casa Pacifica Audit Report

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors: Receive and file the Auditor-Controller's County Contracts with Casa Pacifica Audit Report for the two year period ending June 30, 2014 (the Audit Report).

Summary Text:

The Audit Report is submitted pursuant to California Government Code 26883 which requires that the Auditor-Controller's audit reports be filed with the Board of Supervisors. The overall purpose of our audit was to determine the adequacy of the County's monitoring of the terms and conditions of the contractual agreements between Casa Pacifica and the County. The results of our audit indicate that there are opportunities for improvement in carrying out these contracts.

Background:

Casa Pacifica Centers for Children & Families (Casa Pacifica) is a California nonprofit corporation that specializes in providing mental health services for children and families in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. Alcohol Drug and Mental Health Services (ADMHS) and the Department of Social Services (DSS) have contracts with Casa Pacifica. In fiscal years 2012-13 and 2013-14, payments under the County's contracts with Casa Pacifica were \$4.11 million and \$4.21 million, respectively. We focused our audit on the three largest programs. Descriptions of the three largest programs are as follows:

- Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) works in collaboration with the child, the child's caregivers and the primary mental health provider to address behaviors that jeopardize the child's ability to remain in his or her current home.

- California Senate Bill 163 Wraparound Plan (Wraparound) brings together a unique team of professionals and family supporters who help develop a plan that builds on the family's strengths and uses natural supports along with community resources.
- Safe Alternatives for Treating Youth (SAFTY) is a mobile crisis response service that provides specialized crisis intervention services to the youth of Santa Barbara County 24 hours a day seven days a week.

Overall it appears that Casa Pacifica provides quality services to the County. ADMHS and DSS both expressed satisfaction with Casa Pacifica's performance. However, we noted deficiencies in the performance and documentation of program evaluations by ADMHS and DSS. We also noted opportunities to increase efficiency and enhance communication between ADMHS and Casa Pacifica. Specifically, we identified the following opportunities for improvement:

1. Improve the design and implementation of the County's process for evaluating Casa Pacifica's programs.
2. Modify the contract to more clearly provide for both proactive and follow up services under the SAFTY program.
3. Review SAFTY call data and assess whether calls were directed through the appropriate resource.
4. Re-examine the contract limits annually in light of the goals and objectives of the program and needs of the community.
5. Define and evaluate productivity for each program.
6. Collaborate with Casa Pacifica on ways to eliminate duplication of inputs into two systems.
7. Review allocated admin costs charged to the County to determine if costs are allowable.
8. Determine if one program monitoring report can provide all necessary information for evaluating programs.
9. Obtain receipts for purchases made with gift cards by Wraparound clients.
10. Determine if Casa Pacifica should be including Medicaid funding in their Single Audit Report.
11. Include Therapeutic Behavioral Support Services (TBSS) in the contract approved by the Board of Supervisors.

We recommend that ADMHS, DSS, and Casa Pacifica implement the recommendations in this report.

Attachments:

County Contracts with Casa Pacifica Audit Report

Authored by: Heather Fletcher, Audit Manager

CC: Alice Gleghorn, Director of the Department of Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Services
Daniel Nielson, Director of the Department of Social Services
Steven Elson, Chief Executive Officer of Casa Pacifica
Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer