

NEVADA COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

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(Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Program)

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: January 11, 2022

TO: **Board of Supervisors**

FROM: Phebe Bell

SUBJECT: Resolution approving execution of a contract with the California Mental

> Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) for Workforce Education and Training (WET) activities in the maximum amount of \$71,381.50 for the

contract term of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: This program is funded by Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) dollars. The department is providing a local contribution of MHSA Workforce Education and Training (WET) dollars, which will be matched by the California Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI). Services are supported by Realignment dollars. The contract is within the department's FY 2021/22 budget. There are no county general fund dollars required in the agreement.

BACKGROUND:

The 2020-2025 Workforce Education and Training (WET) program aims to address the shortage of mental health practitioners in the public mental health system (PMHS) through a framework that engages Regional Partnerships and supports individuals through five potential categories including: Pipeline Development, Loan Repayment Program, Undergraduate College and University Scholarships, Clinical Master and Doctoral Graduate Education Stipends, and Retention Activities. The Superior Region - consisting of Butte, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Nevada, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity County - selected four these three categories as their local priorities: Loan Repayment, Educational Stipend, Peer Scholarships, and Retention Activities.

California Counties under the authority of the Government Code formed the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA). CalMHSA is authorized by its Joint Exercise of Powers Act to jointly develop, and fund mental health services under, among other services and functions. The Superior Region has partnered with CalMHSA to administer the following activities for the Behavioral Health Workforce: Loan Repayment, Educational Stipend, and Peer Scholarships

Through this contract, CalMHSA will serve as the fiscal and administrative agent for the three WET activities. CalMHSA will collect and hold county local contribution WET funds, and will draw down state HCAI WET match funds. Additionally, CalMHSA will manage awards for Loan Repayment, Education Stipends, and Peer Scholarships, including confirming eligibility, compliance, executing agreement terms and disbursing funds to award recipients.

It is recommended that the Board approve this contract as it creates strategies to alleviate the shortage of staffing within the public mental health system.

Item Initiated and Approved by: Phebe Bell, MSW, Director of Behavioral Health