



NEVADA COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
AGENCY

Health & Human Services
Agency Director
Ryan Gruver

Behavioral Health Director:
Phebe Bell, MSW

Behavioral Health Medical Director:
Aubrey Eubanks, M.D.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT
(Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Program)

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: December 5, 2023

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Phebe Bell**

SUBJECT: Resolution approving execution of Amendment No. 1 with Jackson & Coker Locum Tenens, LLC services including Psychiatry Locum Tenens coverage to increase the maximum contract price from \$50,000 to \$250,000 (an increase of \$200,000), revise Exhibit "B", Schedule of Charges and Payments to reflect the increase in the maximum contract price for the contract term of March 15, 2023 through June 30, 2024 and to amend the Fiscal Year 2023/24 Behavioral Health Budget (4/5 Vote Required). (PESQ4670)

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: These services are mandated. Services are funded by Medi-Cal reimbursement, 2011 Realigned EPSDT funds and 1991 Realignment. A budget amendment is needed and has been included with the Resolution. There are no county general fund dollars required in the amendment.

BACKGROUND:

On April 12, 2023 per Purchase Order No. PESQ4670, the Nevada County Purchasing Agent authorized the execution of Professional Services Contract with Jackson & Coker Locum Tenens, LLC to provide Psychiatry Locum Tenens coverage.

Recruitment of psychiatrists to the county has been extremely difficult due to a national and statewide shortage in the field, increased demand for services, and the competitive and often higher compensation packages offered by the private sector. Due to this shortage of essential psychiatric coverage, Behavioral Health has contracted with Jackson & Coker on an as needed basis since February 2007. Jackson & Coker has been able to place qualified and experienced psychiatrists who in the interim have worked well with clients and staff. By engaging these

services, Behavioral Health will ensure that timely client psychiatric services are provided without disruption or delay, including prescribing and monitoring medication, examination and diagnosis, determination of psychiatric treatment, consultation on difficult cases to clinical staff, and preparation of records and psychiatric evaluation reports.

Utilization of the contract has been significantly higher than initially expected, largely due to Jackson and Coker quickly placing a highly qualified psychiatrist in Nevada County. Having a strong provider has allowed us to better meet client demand in a timely way. It is recommended that the Board approve this Amendment as it allows Behavioral Health to provide timely client psychiatric services.

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