



**NEVADA COUNTY**  
**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**  
**AGENCY**

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**NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**Board Agenda Memo**

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**MEETING DATE:** February 28, 2017  
**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** **Jill Blake**  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution approving execution of a contract with Social and Environmental Entrepreneurs d/b/a Gateway Mountain Center for the provision of specialty mental health services primarily targeted for emotionally disturbed youth referred from and authorized by Nevada County Behavioral Health Department in the maximum amount of \$35,000 for the term of February 28, 2017 through August 31, 2017, and authorizing and directing the Auditor-Controller to release fund balance and amend the Behavioral Health Department's Budget for FY 2016/17 (4/5 Vote Required).

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the attached Resolution.

**FUNDING:** Services are funded by Medi-cal reimbursement, Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) monies and 2011 Realigned EPSDT funds. A budget Amendment is included and requires a 4/5 vote by the Board Members. There are no county general fund dollars required in the Agreement.

**BACKGROUND:**

Social and Environmental Entrepreneurs d/b/a Gateway Mountain Center operates nature-based adventure and therapeutic programs in Eastern and Western Nevada County. Their team consists of individuals with extensive experience in mentoring, outdoor adventure leadership, counseling, addiction treatment, public and private education, and holistic-based therapies.

Gateway Mountain Center's *Whole Hearts, Minds, and Bodies* Program is a nature-based therapeutic mentoring program for youth who are receiving services related to mental health,

including behavioral and/or substance abuse issues. Youth are observed and supported by adult mentors as they connect to nature, participate in adventure based activities, explore their individual passions, meet challenges, learn how to make healthy decisions, and experience success that can be translated into everyday life.

The Contractor will include the following services in their program:

- Outreach to families, schools, primary care and mental health providers and others to recognize the early signs of potentially severe and disabling mental illnesses
- Access to adjunctive therapies for children with mental illness, as early in the onset of these conditions as practical
- Reduction in stigma associated with either being diagnosed with a mental illness or seeking mental health services

These services will emphasize strategies to reduce negative outcomes that may result from untreated mental illnesses including suicide, incarceration, school failure or dropout, unemployment, prolonged suffering, violent outbursts, homelessness, and removal of children from their homes.

It is recommended the Board approve this Agreement as these services work in collaboration with the supports that are already in place with the County's full-service partnerships to provide a well-rounded, holistic approach to treatment.

**Item Initiated and Approved by:** Jill Blake, MPA, Acting Director of Behavioral Health