



**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**

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**MEETING DATE:** May 14, 2024

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Phebe Bell

**SUBJECT:** Resolution approving execution of Amendment 1 to the Standard Agreement No. 22-20120 with the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for the County's operation of the Mental Health Plan (MHP) to align contract language with changed policies and regulations. (RES 22-471)

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the attached Resolution.

**FUNDING:** These services are mandated. Pursuant to Agreement No. 22-20120 for providing medically necessary services for Nevada County beneficiaries, the Behavioral Health Department receives Realigned dollars including formerly separate State Managed Care and EPSDT (Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment) funding and Federal Financial Participation (FFP) Medi-cal reimbursement. No county general fund dollars are required in the Agreement.

**BACKGROUND:** On September 13, 2022, per Resolution 22-471 the Nevada County Board of Supervisors approved execution of the Standard Agreement No. 22-20120 with the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for the County's operation of the Mental Health Plan.

Mental Health Services are delivered in the Medi-Cal program through a system of public and private providers, distinct from physical health Medi-Cal services. With few exceptions, each California County operates its own Mental Health Plan for Medi-Cal beneficiaries. In discharging our obligation under the agreement, the department must administer and provide or arrange and pay (contract with providers) for covered services for beneficiaries. The Behavioral Health Department determines whether a beneficiary is eligible for services based upon certain diagnostic and impairment criteria. Behavioral Health authorizes services and ensures the availability and accessibility of an adequate number of institutional facilities, service sites, professional, allied and supportive personnel to provide medically necessary services, and ensures authorization for urgent conditions.

This Amendment better aligns the MHP contract with recent DHCS regulatory changes. Examples include clarification around required mobile crisis services, elimination of cost report requirements and addition of interoperability and data sharing requirements. This contract has zero dollars associated with it but instead allows the County to receive state funds and bill Medi-Cal for specialty mental health services. It is recommended that the Board approve this item as it allows the department to operate mental health services for Medi-Cal recipients.

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