



**NEVADA
COUNTY**
CALIFORNIA

Health and Human Services Agency

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BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: December 10, 2024

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Phebe Bell**

SUBJECT: Resolution accepting funds from the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission for the Mental Health Student Services Act grant in the category of Sustainability for December 10, 2024 through December 31, 2027 in the maximum amount of \$450,000 and directs the Auditor-Controller to amend the Behavioral Health Budget for fiscal year 2024/25 (4/5 Affirmative Vote Required).

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING The funding is from the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSAOAC). Nevada County Behavioral Health has been awarded an additional \$450,000 in MHSSA funds, and will partner with Nevada County Superintendent of Schools to implement a sustainability plan for the current MHSSA program. This grant award will support staff time to research and identify funding sources and implement a comprehensive strategy to sustain the current MHSSA program. A budget amendment is required and included in this Resolution. There are no county general fund dollars required.

BACKGROUND: The purpose of the Mental Health Student Services Act (MHSSA) is to establish additional mental health partnerships between county behavioral health departments and local education entities. MHSSA grants must provide support services that include, at a minimum, services provided on school campuses, suicide prevention services, drop-out prevention services, placement assistance and service plan for students in need of ongoing services, and outreach to high-risk youth, including foster youth, youth who identify as LGBTQ, and youth who have been expelled or suspended from school.

The MHSSA Sustainability grant will support NCSOS and NCBH in sustaining the current Nevada County MHSSA program. Nevada County has had four years of MHSSA funding, and as that funding is ending it is necessary to find alternate funding sources and implement a sustainability plan for the MHSSA program. Nevada County’s MHSSA program has experienced

great success with students, teachers, and paraeducators throughout the county. Students served through the MHSSA program are less likely to be suspended, expelled, need a higher level of services, or have behavioral problems that affect their ability to be successful both personally and academically. Teachers and paraeducators have received extensive training through the MHSSA program that has resulted in staff who are better equipped to manage classrooms, implement behavior plans, and support students in their mental health. The MHSSA program is vital to the success of Nevada County students and thus efforts should be made to sustain the MHSSA program as it currently operates.

The request today is to approve acceptance of these grant funds as they will allow this critical program time to build a sustainability plan for these important services.

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