



**NEVADA COUNTY  
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
AGENCY**

**Health & Human Services  
Agency Director  
Michael Heggarty, MFT**

**Behavioral Health Director:  
Phebe Bell, MSW**

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

**Behavioral Health Medical Director:  
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## **NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Memo**

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**MEETING DATE:** July 9, 2019

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** **Phebe Bell**

**SUBJECT:** Resolution approving execution of a renewal contract with Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital for the provision of ambulance transport services for clients as authorized by the County's Behavioral Health Department in the maximum amount of \$50,000, not to exceed \$25,000 per fiscal year, for the contract term of July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2021.

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the attached Resolution.

**FUNDING:** Services are mandated. Funding is provided through Medi-Cal, private insurance, other third party reimbursement, and Realignment. Services are within the Department's FY 2019/20 budget. There are no county general fund dollars required in the Agreement.

**BACKGROUND:**

Section 5150 of the Welfare and Institutions Code specifies that when a person, as a result of a mental disorder, is a danger to themselves or others, or is "gravely disabled," he/she may be placed on a 72-hour hold for psychiatric treatment and evaluation. Transport in a safe, secure vehicle with trained, certified staff is required to transport these clients to one of the County's contracted designated psychiatric facilities.

The Behavioral Health Department contracts with Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital for ambulance transport services for designated clients who meet 5150 criteria as authorized by a member of Nevada County Behavioral Health staff or Crisis Team. Under this agreement, the Contractor is responsible for all patient and third party billing, exhausting other funding sources before billing the County's Behavioral Health Department. Behavioral Health is responsible for patients who are not eligible for billing to Medi-Cal, Medicare, Private Insurance or other third-party reimbursement.

It is recommended that the Board approve this renewal contract as these necessary transport services expedite the process and admittance time from our local hospital to the appropriate psychiatric facility.

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