



**NEVADA COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
AGENCY**

**Health & Human Services
Agency Director
Ryan Gruver**

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

**Behavioral Health Medical Director:
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**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT
(Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Program)**

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

MEETING DATE: July 11, 2023
TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: **Phebe Bell**
SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing execution of a Participation Agreement with the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) for Psychiatric Inpatient Concurrent Review in the maximum amount of \$62,720 for the term August 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024 and directs the Auditor-Controller to amend the Behavioral Health Budget for fiscal year 2023/24 (4/5 Affirmative Vote Required).

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: Contract services are funded with Medi-Cal and realignment monies. A budget amendment is required and included in this Resolution. There are no County general fund dollars required in the agreement.

BACKGROUND:

The role and responsibilities of County behavioral health programs has grown significantly. We must build adequate networks, manage contracts, credential providers, administer benefits, authorize medically necessary services, pay claims, oversee quality, respond to complaints, and conduct other activities required by the federal managed care rules.

Per the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Behavioral Health Information Notices (BHIN) 19-026 and BHIN 22-017, the Mental Health Plans (MHPs) are required to conduct concurrent review and authorization for all psychiatric inpatient hospital services and psychiatric health facility services. These BHINs outline policy changes implemented to ensure an MHPs' compliance with the Parity in Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services Final Rule (Parity Rule; Title 42 of the CFR, part 438.910).

Given these policy changes, CalMHSA entered into a services contract with Keystone Peer Review Organization, Inc., also known as Kepro, who shall conduct concurrent review and authorization of inpatient psychiatric hospital services on behalf of multiple California County MHPs. Kepro, as administered by CalMHSA, will provide a web-enabled utilization review platform and clinical services to carry out psychiatric inpatient concurrent review and authorization services and to provide other related services and information needed to support state and federal reporting mandates.

It is recommended that the Board approve this resolution, to provide Nevada County with the necessary administrative support to achieve the updated concurrent review and authorization requirements.

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