

NEVADA COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Program)

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: July 9, 2024

TO: **Board of Supervisors**

FROM: **Phebe Bell**

SUBJECT: Resolution approving execution of a renewal contract with Nevada County

> Superintendent of Schools related to the provision of Latino Outreach Services through the network of PARTNERS Family Resource Center as a component of the County's MHSA Prevention and Early Intervention Plan in the maximum

amount of \$156,049 for FY 2024/25.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: Contract services are funded by MHSA (Mental Health Services Act) Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) dollars. PEI seeks to address disparities of access to mental health services, and to reach unserved/underserved populations such as members of ethnically/racially diverse communities including those unlikely to seek help from traditional mental health services access points. Services were included in the Department's FY 2024/25 budget. There are no county general fund dollars required in the contract.

BACKGROUND: Under this agreement, Nevada County Superintendent of Schools provides Latino Outreach Services through the network of PARTNERS Family Resource Center. The program provides mental health outreach and engagement groups in Spanish for the Latino Community, a growing community in Nevada County. This population has limited access to Spanish speaking resources, especially mental health services. The Family Resource Center's Promotoras Program employs bicultural and bilingual para-professionals to help Latino families connect to health resources and to offer health education.

The Contractor will conduct 16 psycho-educational meetings yearly that will educate people about mental health, attempt to decrease stigma, and increase the number of Latinos seeking mental health treatment. The Promotoras will use W.R.A.P. (Wellness Recovery Action Plan) curriculum, and other evidence-based models. The Promotoras will also provide outreach and engagement to Spanish speaking families by meeting them in their homes and communities and will have scheduled advertised hours at the PARTNERS Family Resource Center where they will be available to help Spanish speakers access services in the community.

It is expected that the services provided will:

- Increase knowledge of when and where to turn for help when mental health symptoms require assessment and care
- Increase comfort with discussing mental health and illness
- Increase recognition of early signs of mental illness
- Increase opportunities for self-care and social connection

It is recommended that the Board approve this renewal Agreement as services address unmet needs and improve access to mental health care for community residents.

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