



Health and Human Services Agency

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BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: June 3, 2025

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Phebe Bell, Behavioral Health Director

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 \$81,312 for the term July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: Contract services are funded with Medi-cal and realignment monies. This contract was included in BH's FY 25/26 budget. There are no County general fund dollars required in the agreement.

BACKGROUND: The role and responsibilities of County Behavioral Health programs continues to grow each year. 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 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 a 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 Acentra Health, formerly known as Kepro/Keystone Peer Review Organization Inc., who shall conduct concurrent review and authorization of inpatient psychiatric hospital services on behalf of multiple California County MHPs. Acentra, 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.

Approved by: Phebe Bell, Behavioral Health Director