



**NEVADA COUNTY  
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
AGENCY**

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

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

**Behavioral Health Medical  
Director: Aubrey Eubanks, M.D.**

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

500 CROWN POINT CIRCLE, STE. 120 GRASS VALLEY CALIFORNIA 95945

10075 LEVON AVE., STE 204 TRUCKEE, CALIFORNIA 96161

TELEPHONE (530) 265-1437

FAX (530) 271-0257

TELEPHONE (530) 582-7803

FAX (530) 582-7729

## **NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

### **Board Agenda Memo**

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**MEETING DATE:** July 28, 2020

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** **Phebe Bell, MSW**

**SUBJECT:** Resolution approving execution of a renewal Professional Services Agreement with Nevada County Housing Development Corporation (NCHDC) for services related to Behavioral Health's community-based housing projects and housing for residents with a mental health disability for authorized program participants in the maximum amount of \$225,026 for the term of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the attached Resolution.

**FUNDING:** Contract services are funded by County MHSA (Mental Health Services Act) funds, and Proposition 47 grant funds. A budget amendment is needed and will be included in the first Countywide Budget Amendment. There are no county general fund dollars required in the agreement.

**BACKGROUND:** NCHDC provides services related to Behavioral Health's community-based housing projects targeted to reduce homelessness, helps obtain and maintain housing for residents with a mental health disability, and enters master lease agreements for housing for program participants. In addition to providing housing for Behavioral Health clients, NCHDC also provides staff to support clients in being successful in the housing. These supportive housing environments help prevent homelessness and allow clients to maintain stable living situations.

The economic ramifications of the Coronavirus pandemic are significantly impacting major funding sources relied on by the Department. Behavioral Health is monitoring the situation closely and is actively involved in advocacy efforts through the County Behavioral Health Directors Association (CBHDA) to ensure reasonable funding for county services. Additionally, the department has reviewed the 20-21 budget carefully and areas for reduction have been identified to reduce the pressure on existing funding sources. At the same time, demand for behavioral health services is likely to increase over coming months due to both the economic stress and social isolation of this time, as well as due to increasing numbers of Medi-Cal beneficiaries in our county. The department is proposing to move forward with critical contracts at levels similar to what was originally budgeted, but with the understanding that mid-year reductions may be necessary if revenues continue to decline. Behavioral Health staff are in close communication with all contractors and have provided support to them around modifying their processes and protocols so that staff can remain safe and community members can safely get the care they need. Staff are also working closely with providers to increase productivity so that we can continue to maximize our ability to draw down federal funds. Providers are aware that midyear cuts may be needed if the economic situation worsens. Additional analysis and review will be done as needed throughout the year. This contract does not rely on general funds and Behavioral Health's current anticipated revenues along with fund balances are sufficient to support this contract at this time.

It is recommended that the Board Agreement as the services provided will help program participants, including homeless individuals involved with the criminal justice system, obtain and remain in permanent housing, increase the number of affordable options available to recipients, and ensure the provision of community supports necessary to assist recipient in succeeding in securing housing and integrating successfully into the community.

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