



**NEVADA COUNTY**  
**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**  
**AGENCY**

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## **NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

### **Board Agenda Memo**

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**MEETING DATE:** August 27, 2019

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

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

**SUBJECT:** Resolution approving execution of a renewal of a personal services contract with Gateway Mountain Center for the provision of specialty mental health services primarily targeted for emotionally disturbed youth in the maximum amount of \$88,200 for the term of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the attached Resolution.

**FUNDING:** Services are funded by Medi-cal reimbursement, Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) monies and 2011 Realigned EPSDT funds. Services are within the Department's FY 2019/20 budget and there are no county general fund dollars required in the Agreement.

**BACKGROUND:**

Gateway Mountain Center operates nature-based adventure and therapeutic programs in Eastern and Western Nevada County. Their team consists of individuals with extensive experience in mentoring, outdoor adventure leadership, counseling, addiction treatment, public and private education, and holistic-based therapies.

Gateway Mountain Center's *Whole Hearts, Minds, and Bodies* Program is a nature-based therapeutic mentoring program for youth who are receiving services related to mental health, including behavioral and/or substance abuse issues. Youth are observed and supported by adult mentors as they connect to nature, participate in adventure based activities, explore their individual passions, meet challenges, learn how to make healthy decisions, and experience success that can be translated into everyday life.

The Contractor will include the following services in their program:

- Outreach to families, schools, primary care and mental health providers and others to recognize the early signs of potentially severe and disabling mental illnesses
- Access to adjunctive therapies for children with mental illness, as early in the onset of these conditions as practical
- Reduction in stigma associated with either being diagnosed with a mental illness or seeking mental health services

These services will emphasize strategies to reduce negative outcomes that may result from untreated mental illnesses including suicide, incarceration, school failure or dropout, unemployment, prolonged suffering, violent outbursts, homelessness, and removal of children from their homes.

It is recommended the Board approve this renewal Agreement as these services work in collaboration with the supports that are already in place with the County's full-service partnerships to provide a well-rounded, holistic approach to treatment.

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