



NEVADA COUNTY
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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: June 28, 2016

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Rebecca Slade

SUBJECT: Resolution approving execution of Amendment #1 to the Operational Agreement between the County of Nevada and Sierra Nevada Memorial-Miners Hospital pertaining to the provision of crisis stabilization services on the Sierra Nevada Memorial-Miners Hospital Campus to amend the Scope of Services Exhibit "A" and Financial Arrangement Exhibit "B" with regard to the County assuming responsibility for the provision of telepsychiatry services for the term of February 10, 2015 through June 30, 2035.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: Purchase, design and furnishings for the modular building that serves as a four-bed Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) on hospital grounds is fully-funded from Senate Bill (SB) 82, the Investment in Mental Health Wellness Act of 2013, which is comprised of state general funds and MHSA (Mental Health Services Act) administrative dollars that have been awarded to the department under a California Health Facilities Financing Authority (CHFFA) grant. Behavioral Health is funding the ongoing project operational costs through Medi-Cal, private insurance, County realignment, MHSA funds, guaranteed-bed fees from SNMH, and patient payment revenues received for treatment of patients in the CSU. The projected annual net cost to the County for all expenditures related to the operation of the CSU is estimated to be \$427,425 and is unchanged by this Amendment. Services are planned for in the Department's budget. There are no county general fund dollars required in the Agreement.

BACKGROUND: The Board of Supervisors approved this Operational Agreement, on February 10, 2015 per Resolution 15-067. The Agreement established the financial arrangement and delineated the roles and responsibilities of the County and SNMH related to operation of the Crisis Stabilization (CSU). Under the Agreement the County is responsible for: purchase of the modular building as well as all furniture/equipment; operational oversight including: staffing (which is

provided by a qualified contract provider), billing for crisis stabilization services, developing processes and procedures for admission, discharge and treatment interventions, reserving three beds for SNMH, and ensuring compliance of the CSU in accordance to state regulations and guidelines. The Hospital provides medical screening exams, meals/nutritional services, environmental services including cleaning of rooms, linens, admit kits, security, and utilities for the CSU.

This CSU provides brief psychiatric intervention services lasting less than 24 hours, for persons 18 and older, who are experiencing an acute psychiatric crisis, and includes serving individuals with co-occurring substance use disorders. Services include a physical and mental health assessment, collateral, and therapy services and utilization of a physician's assessment, medical backup, nursing, and crisis peer counseling services. The goal of crisis stabilization is to:

- Improve access to the most appropriate treatment resources, and decrease the utilization of hospital emergency departments, jails and homeless programs for behavioral health emergencies;
- Provide timely aid to de-escalate the crisis episode and stabilize patients quickly and assist them to return to their pre-crisis level of functioning;
- Reduce the number of days of inpatient hospital stays and costs; and
- Increase patients' ability to receive treatment within their community and to engage in local support systems.

As outlined in the Operational Agreement, the County purchases certain services related to operation of the CSU from the hospital such as meals/nutritional services, environmental services, security, and utilities. The hospital agrees to reimburse the County annually for the guarantee of three (3) dedicated beds in the CSU. The payment obligations of each party will be revised annually, based on actual project costs and revenues of the immediate prior year.

Per the original Agreement, the County had planned to purchase / contract with the SNMH for Tele-psychiatry telemedicine services but instead has contracted with a local psychiatrist to provide those services to the CSU. This Amendment #1 to the Operational Agreement is to clarify that the County will directly provide the psychiatry telemedicine services rather than purchasing the services from the hospital.

It is recommended that the Board approve the attached Amendment as this project provides an essential resource for Nevada County families, helps mental health consumers stabilize, and supports them in their recovery and wellness in a safe, secure community-based environment and serves as an alternative option to longer, more expensive hospitalization services.

Item Initiated and Approved by: Rebecca Slade, MFT, Director of Behavioral Health