



RESOLUTION No. 25-342

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

RESOLUTION APPROVING EXECUTION OF A RENEWAL CONTRACT WITH O'CONNELL RESEARCH, INC. FOR SERVICES INCLUDING PLANNING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CARE COURT, CALAIM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH LINKAGES, SUPPORT FOR THE INCOMPETENT TO STAND TRIAL PROGRAM, AND GENERAL SUPPORT FOR THE STEPPING UP INITIATIVE IN THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF \$100,000 FOR THE CONTRACT TERM OF JULY 1, 2025, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026

WHEREAS, in May of 2015, the Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center, the National Association of Counties (NACo), and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation (APA Foundation) partnered to create Stepping Up with the purpose of rallying local, state, and national leaders to achieve a measurable reduction in the number of people in jail who have serious mental illnesses (SMI); and

WHEREAS, in December of 2016, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors adopted resolution 16-586, supporting Nevada County's participation in the Stepping Up Initiative, thereby advancing the initiative's core goals of building a local leadership team, working to identify the number of people with mental illnesses entering the jail system, ensuring that those people are connected with services, and developing a comprehensive plan that will lead to an actual reduction in the number of people with mental illnesses in the jail; and

WHEREAS, in the years since the resolution was adopted, a collaborative group of county departments, including the Sheriff's Office, Probation, Public Defender, District Attorney, and Behavioral Health, has been meeting regularly and has implemented numerous system changes and improvements to better link people with SMI to treatment services instead of incarceration; and

WHEREAS, for the past several years, our local Stepping Up group has worked with O'Connell Research to refine and better analyze our local data. This group will continue to meet and focus on improving our services based on the data and research so that people receive the care they need. Additionally, this group will serve as the planning group for CARE Court implementation in Nevada County, support the CalAIM justice involved linkages planning, and provide oversight of the Incompetent to Stand Trial Diversion process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada, State of California, that the Professional Services Contract by and between the County and O'Connell Research, Inc. pertaining to the provision of data analysis, facilitation and planning for the contract term of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, in the maximum amount of \$100,000 be and hereby is approved, and that the Chair of the Board of Supervisors be and is hereby authorized to execute the contract on behalf of the County of Nevada. This contract is contingent upon the adoption of the FY 25/26 County Budget. The contract begins on July 1, 2025.

Funds to be disbursed from account: 1589-40110-493-8301 / 521520

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada at a regular meeting of said Board, held on the 8th day of July 2025, by the following vote of said Board:

Ayes: Supervisors Heidi Hall, Robb Tucker, Lisa Swarthout, Susan Hoek, and Hardy Bullock.

Noes: None.

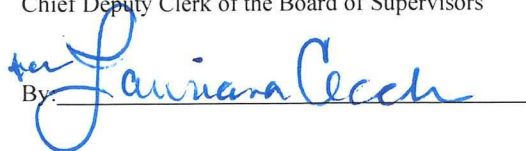
Absent: None.

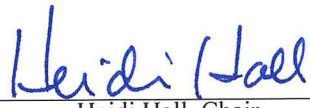
Abstain: None.

Recuse: None.

ATTEST:

TINE MATHIASSEN
Chief Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: 


Heidi Hall, Chair

RES 25-342

Contract No. _____

Contract Description: Support the Stepping Up collaborative and design the process and flow for CARE Court mandate for Nevada County

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT
FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY**

THIS PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT ("Contract") is made at Nevada City, California, as of July 8, 2025 by and between the County of Nevada, ("County"), and O'Connell Research, Inc ("Contractor") (together "Parties", individual "Party"), who agree as follows:

1. **Services** Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Contract, Contractor shall provide the services described in Exhibit A. Contractor shall provide said services at the time, place, and in the manner specified in Exhibit A.
2. **Payment** County shall pay Contractor for services rendered pursuant to this Contract at the time and in the amount set forth in Exhibit B. The payments specified in Exhibit B shall be the only payment made to Contractor for services rendered pursuant to this Contract. Contractor shall submit all billings for said services to County in the manner specified in Exhibit B; or, if no manner be specified in Exhibit B, then according to the usual and customary procedures which Contractor uses for billing clients similar to County. **The amount of the contract shall not exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000).**
3. **Term** This Contract shall commence on July 1, 2025 All services required to be provided by this Contract shall be completed and ready for acceptance no later than the **Contract Termination Date** of: June 30, 2026.
4. **Facilities, Equipment and Other Materials** Contractor shall, at its sole cost and expense, furnish all facilities, equipment, and other materials which may be required for furnishing services pursuant to this Contract.
5. **Exhibits** All exhibits referred to herein and attached hereto are incorporated herein by this reference.
6. **Electronic Signatures** The Parties acknowledge and agree that this Contract may be executed by electronic signature, which shall be considered as an original signature for all purposes and shall have the same force and effect as an original signature. Without limitation, "electronic signature" shall include faxed or emailed versions of an original signature or electronically scanned and transmitted versions (e.g., via pdf) of an original signature.
7. **Time for Performance** Time is of the essence. Failure of Contractor to perform any services within the time limits set forth in Exhibit A or elsewhere in this Contract shall constitute material breach of this contract. Contractor shall devote such time to the performance of services pursuant to this Contract as may be reasonably necessary for the satisfactory performance of Contractor's obligations pursuant to this Contract. Neither Party shall be considered in default of this Contract to the extent performance is prevented or delayed by any cause, present or future, which is beyond the reasonable control of the Party.
8. **Liquidated Damages**
Liquidated Damages are presented as an estimate of an intangible loss to the County. It is a provision that allows for the payment of a specified sum should Contractor be in breach of contract. Liquidated

Damages ☒shall not ☐shall apply to this contract. If Liquidated Damages are applicable to this contract, the terms are incorporated in Exhibit I, attached hereto.

9. **Relationship of Parties**

9.1. **Independent Contractor**

In providing services herein, Contractor, and the agents and employees thereof, shall work in an independent capacity and as an independent contractor and not as agents or employees of County. Contractor acknowledges that it customarily engages independently in the trade, occupation, or business as that involved in the work required herein. Further the Parties agree that Contractor shall perform the work required herein free from the control and direction of County, and that the nature of the work is outside the usual course of County's business. In performing the work required herein, Contractor shall not be entitled to any employment benefits, Workers' Compensation, or other programs afforded to County employees. Contractor shall hold County harmless and indemnify County against such claim by its agents or employees. County makes no representation as to the effect of this independent contractor relationship on Contractor's previously earned California Public Employees Retirement System ("CalPERS") retirement benefits, if any, and Contractor specifically assumes the responsibility for making such determination. Contractor shall be responsible for all reports and obligations including but not limited to: social security taxes, income tax withholding, unemployment insurance, disability insurance, workers' compensation and other applicable federal and state taxes.

9.2. **No Agent Authority** Contractor shall have no power to incur any debt, obligation, or liability on behalf of County or otherwise to act on behalf of County as an agent. Neither County nor any of its agents shall have control over the conduct of Contractor or any of Contractor's employees, except as set forth in this Contract. Contractor shall not represent that it is, or that any of its agents or employees are, in any manner employees of County.

9.3. **Indemnification of CalPERS Determination** In the event that Contractor or any employee, agent, or subcontractor of Contractor providing service under this Contract is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction or CalPERS to be eligible for enrollment in CalPERS as an employee of County, Contractor shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless County for all payments on behalf of Contractor or its employees, agents, or subcontractors, as well as for the payment of any penalties and interest on such contributions, which would otherwise be the responsibility of County.

10. **Assignment and Subcontracting** Except as specifically provided herein, the rights, responsibilities, duties and services to be performed under this Contract are personal to Contractor and may not be transferred, subcontracted, or assigned without the prior written consent of County. Contractor shall not substitute or replace any personnel for those specifically named herein or in its proposal without the prior written consent of County.

Contractor shall cause and require each transferee, subcontractor, and assignee to comply with the insurance provisions **and information technology security provisions** set forth herein, to the extent such insurance provisions are required of Contractor under this Contract. Failure of Contractor to so cause and require such compliance by each transferee, subcontractor, and assignee shall constitute a material breach of this Contract, and, in addition to any other remedy available at law or otherwise, shall serve as a basis upon which County may elect to suspend payments hereunder, or terminate this Contract, or both.

11. **Licenses, Permits, Etc.** Contractor represents and warrants to County that Contractor shall, at its sole cost and expense, obtain or keep in effect at all times during the term of this Contract, any licenses, permits, and approvals which are legally required for Contractor to practice its profession at the time the services are performed.

12. **Hold Harmless and Indemnification Contract** To the fullest extent permitted by law, each Party (the “Indemnifying Party”) hereby agrees to protect, defend, indemnify, and hold the other Party (the “Indemnified Party”), its officers, agents, employees, and volunteers, free and harmless from any and all losses, claims, liens, demands, and causes of action of every kind and character resulting from the Indemnifying Party’s negligent act, willful misconduct, or error or omission, including, but not limited to, the amounts of judgments, penalties, interest, court costs, legal fees, and all other expenses incurred by the Indemnified Party arising in favor of any party, including claims, liens, debts, personal injuries, death, or damages to property (including employees or property of the Indemnified Party) and without limitation, all other claims or demands of every character occurring or in any way incident to, in connection with or arising directly or indirectly out of, the Contract. The Indemnifying Party agrees to investigate, handle, respond to, provide defense for, and defend any such claims, demand, or suit at the sole expense of the Indemnifying Party, using legal counsel approved in writing by Indemnified Party. Indemnifying Party also agrees to bear all other costs and expenses related thereto, even if the claim or claims alleged are groundless, false, or fraudulent. This provision is not intended to create any cause of action in favor of any third party against either Party or to enlarge in any way either Party’s liability but is intended solely to provide for indemnification of the Indemnified Party from liability for damages, or injuries to third persons or property, arising from or in connection with Indemnifying Party’s performance pursuant to this Contract. This obligation is independent of, and shall not in any way be limited by, the minimum insurance obligations contained in this Contract.
13. **Certificate of Good Standing** Contractors who are registered corporations, including those corporations that are registered non-profits, shall possess a Certificate of Good Standing also known as Certificate of Existence or Certificate of Authorization from the California Secretary of State, and shall keep its status in good standing and effect during the term of this Contract.
14. **Standard of Performance** Contractor shall perform all services required pursuant to this Contract in the manner and according to the standards observed by a competent practitioner of the profession in which Contractor is engaged in the geographical area in which Contractor practices its profession. All products of whatsoever nature which Contractor delivers to County pursuant to this Contract shall be prepared in a substantial first class and workmanlike manner and conform to the standards or quality normally observed by a person practicing in Contractor’s profession.
15. **Contractor without additional compensation** Contractor’s personnel, when on County’s premises and when accessing County’s network remotely, shall comply with County’s regulations regarding security, remote access, safety and professional conduct, including but not limited to Nevada County Security Policy NCSP-102 Nevada County External User Policy and Account Application regarding data and access security. Contractor personnel will solely utilize County’s privileged access management platform for all remote access support functions, unless other methods are granted in writing by County’s Chief Information Officer or their designee.
16. **Prevailing Wage and Apprentices** To the extent made applicable by law, performance of this Contract shall be in conformity with the provisions of California Labor Code, Division 2, Part 7, Chapter 1, commencing with section 1720 relating to prevailing wages which must be paid to workers employed on a public work as defined in Labor Code section 1720, et seq., and shall be in conformity with Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations section 200 et seq., relating to apprenticeship. Where applicable:
- Contractor shall comply with the provisions thereof at the commencement of Services to be provided herein, and thereafter during the term of this Contract. A breach of the requirements of this section shall be deemed a material breach of this contract. Applicable prevailing wage determinations are available on the California Department of Industrial Relations website at <http://www.dir.ca.gov/OPRL/PWD>.
 - Contractor and all subcontractors must comply with the requirements of Labor Code section 1771.1(a) pertaining to registration of contractors pursuant to section 1725.5. Registration and all

related requirements of those sections must be maintained throughout the performance of the Contract.

- Contracts to which prevailing wage requirements apply are subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations. Each Contractor and each subcontractor must furnish certified payroll records to the Labor Commissioner at least monthly.
- The County is required to provide notice to the Department of Industrial Relations of any public work contract subject to prevailing wages within five (5) days of award.

17. **Accessibility** It is the policy of County that all County services, programs, meetings, activities and facilities shall be accessible to all persons, and shall be comply with the provisions of the Americans With Disabilities Act and Title 24, California Code of Regulations. To the extent this Contract shall call for Contractor to provide County contracted services directly to the public, Contractor shall certify that said direct services are and shall be accessible to all persons.
18. **Nondiscriminatory Employment** Contractor shall not discriminate in its employment practices because of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, sex or sexual orientation, or any other legally protected category, in contravention of the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, Government Code section 12900 et seq.
19. **Drug-Free Workplace** Senate Bill 1120, (Chapter 1170, Statutes of 1990), requires recipients of State grants to maintain a "drug-free workplace". Every person or organization awarded a contract for the procurement of any property or services shall certify as required under Government Code Section 8355-8357 that it will provide a drug-free workplace.
20. **Political Activities** Contractor shall in no instance expend funds or use resources derived from this Contract on any political activities.
21. **Levine Act** This contract ☒ shall not ☐ shall be subject to compliance with Government Code Section 84308 (Levine Act), which pertains to campaign contributions of more than \$500 to any member of the County of Nevada Board of Supervisors or any County of Nevada Official who will be making, participating in making, or in any way attempting to use their official position to influence a County decision to approve the contract. If Levine Act Compliance is applicable to this contract, the terms are incorporated in Exhibit H, attached hereto.
22. **Subrecipient** This contract ☒ shall not ☐ shall be subject to subrecipient status as such: the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, 2 CFR Part 200 et al (commonly referred to as the "OMB Super Circular" or "Uniform Guidance"). A copy of these regulations is available at the link provided herein for the Code of Federal Regulations. Subrecipient and Contractor determinations
23. **Debarment** In order to prohibit the procurement of any goods or services ultimately funded by Federal awards from debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded parties, this contract ☒ shall not ☐ shall qualify for debarment suspension monitoring. Contractor shall provide proof of debarment compliance if requested by the County. In addition, the County may (at anytime during the term of the Contract) screen the Contractor at www.sam.gov to ensure Contractor, its principal and their named subcontractors are not debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded by the United States Government in compliance with the requirements of 7 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 3016.35, 28 CFR 66.35, 29 CFR 97.35, 34 CFR 80.35, 45 CFR 92.35 and Executive Order 12549.
24. **Financial, Statistical and Contract-Related Records:**
 - 24.1. **Books and Records** Contractor shall maintain statistical records and submit reports as required by County. Contractor shall also maintain accounting and administrative books and records, program

procedures and documentation relating to licensure and accreditation as they pertain to this Contract. All such financial, statistical and contract-related records shall be retained for five (5) years or until program review findings and/or audit findings are resolved, whichever is later. Such records shall include but not be limited to bids and all supporting documents, original entry books, canceled checks, receipts, invoices, payroll records, including subsistence, travel and field expenses, together with a general ledger itemizing all debits and credits.

24.2. **Inspection** Upon reasonable advance notice and during normal business hours or at such other times as may be agreed upon, Contractor shall make all of its books and records, including general business records, available for inspection, examination or copying, to County, or to the State Department of Health Care Services, the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, the Controller General of the United States and to all other authorized federal and state agencies, or their duly authorized representatives.

24.3. **Audit** Contractor shall permit the aforesaid agencies or their duly authorized representatives to audit all books, accounts or records relating to this Contract, and all books, accounts or records of any business entities controlled by Contractor who participated in this Contract in any way. All such records shall be available for inspection by auditors designated by County or State, at reasonable times during normal business hours. Any audit may be conducted on Contractor's premises or, at County's option, Contractor shall provide all books and records within fifteen (15) days upon delivery of written notice from County. Contractor shall promptly refund any moneys erroneously charged and shall be liable for the costs of audit if the audit establishes an over-charge of five percent (5%) or more of the correct amount owed during the audit period.

25. **Cost Disclosure:** In accordance with Government Code Section 7550, should a written report be prepared under or required by the provisions of this Contract, Contractor agrees to state in a separate section of said report the numbers and dollar amounts of all contracts and subcontracts relating to the preparation of said report.

26. **Termination.**

- A. A material breach, as defined pursuant to the terms of this Contract or otherwise, in addition to any other remedy available at law or otherwise, shall serve as a basis upon which County may elect to immediately suspend payments hereunder, or terminate this Contract, or both, without notice.
- B. If Contractor fails to timely provide in any manner the services materials and products required under this Contract, or otherwise fails to promptly comply with the terms of this Contract, or violates any ordinance, regulation or other law which applies to its performance herein, County may terminate this Contract by giving **five (5) calendar days written notice to Contractor.**
- C. Either Party may terminate this Contract for any reason, or without cause, by giving **thirty (30) calendar days written notice** to the other, which notice shall be sent by registered mail in conformity with the notice provisions, below. In the event of termination not the fault of Contractor, Contractor shall be paid for services performed to the date of termination in accordance with the terms of this Contract. Contractor shall be excused for failure to perform services herein if such performance is prevented by acts of God, strikes, labor disputes or other forces over which Contractor has no control.
- D. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, if state or federal funds that County intended to use for payment under this Contract are canceled, reduced, or otherwise made unavailable, County shall have the right to immediately terminate this Contract upon written notice to Contractor. In such an event, County shall pay Contractor for all services satisfactorily performed up to the date of termination in accordance with the terms of this Contract, and Contractor shall have no further claims against County due to such termination.
- E. Any notice to be provided under this section may be given by the Agency Director.
- F. Suspension: County, upon giving seven (7) calendar days written notice to Contractor, shall have the right to suspend this Contract, in whole or in part, for any time period as County deems necessary due to delays in Federal, State or County appropriation of funds, lack of demand for services to be

provided under this contract, or other good cause. Upon receipt of a notice of suspension from County, Contractor shall immediately suspend or stop work as directed by County and shall not resume work until and unless County gives Contractor a written notice to resume work. In the event of a suspension not the fault of the Contractor, Contractor shall be paid for services performed to the date of the notice of suspension in accordance with the terms of this Contract.

In the event this Contract is terminated:

- 1) Contractor shall deliver copies of all writings prepared by it pursuant to this Contract. The term "writings" shall be construed to mean and include handwriting, typewriting, printing, Photostatting, photographing, and every other means of recording upon any tangible thing any form of communication or representation, including letters, words, pictures, sounds, or symbols, or combinations thereof.
- 2) County shall have full ownership and control of all such writings delivered by Contractor pursuant to this Contract.
- 3) County shall pay Contractor the reasonable value of services rendered by Contractor to the date of termination pursuant to this Contract not to exceed the amount documented by Contractor and approved by County as work accomplished to date; provided, however, that in no event shall any payment hereunder exceed the amount of the Contract specified in Exhibit B, and further provided, however, County shall not in any manner be liable for lost profits which might have been made by Contractor had Contractor completed the services required by this Contract. In this regard, Contractor shall furnish to County such financial information as in the judgment of County is necessary to determine the reasonable value of the services rendered by Contractor. The foregoing is cumulative and does not affect any right or remedy, which County may have in law or equity.

27. **Intellectual Property** Contractor will not publish or transfer any materials produced or resulting from activities supported by this Contract without the express written consent of County. All reports, original drawings, graphics, plans, studies and other data and documents, in whatever form or format, assembled or prepared by Contractor or Contractor's subcontractors, consultants, and other agents in connection with this Contract are "works made for hire" (as defined in the Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. Section 101 et seq., as amended) for County, and Contractor unconditionally and irrevocably transfers and assigns to County all right, title, and interest, including all copyrights and other intellectual property rights, in or to the "works made for hire." Unless required by law, Contractor shall not publish, transfer, discuss, or disclose any of the above-described works made for hire or any information gathered, discovered, or generated in any way through this Contract, without County's prior express written consent. To the extent County provides any of its own original photographs, diagrams, plans, documents, information, reports, computer code and all recordable media together with all copyright interests thereto, to Contractor during this Contract, such information shall remain the property of County, and upon fifteen (15) days demand therefore, shall be promptly delivered to County without exception.
28. **Waiver** One or more waivers by one Party of any major or minor breach or default of any provision, term, condition, or covenant of this Contract shall not operate as a waiver of any subsequent breach or default by the other Party.
29. **Conflict of Interest** Contractor certifies that no official or employee of County, nor any business entity in which an official of County has an interest, has been employed or retained to solicit or aid in the procuring of this Contract. In addition, Contractor agrees that no such person will be employed in the performance of this Contract unless first agreed to in writing by County. This includes prior Nevada County employment in accordance with County's Personnel Code
30. **Entirety of Contract** This Contract contains the entire Contract of County and Contractor with respect to the subject matter hereof, and no other contract, statement, or promise made by any Party, or to any employee, officer or agent of any Party, which is not contained in this Contract, shall be binding or valid.

31. **Alteration** No waiver, alteration, modification, or termination of this Contract shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by all Parties, except as expressly provided in Section 26, Termination.
32. **Governing Law and Venue** This Contract is executed and intended to be performed in the State of California, and the laws of that State shall govern its interpretation and effect. The venue for any legal proceedings regarding this Contract shall be the County of Nevada, State of California. Each Party waives any federal court removal and/or original jurisdiction rights it may have.
33. **Compliance with Applicable Laws** Contractor and any subcontractors shall comply with any and all federal, state and local laws, codes, ordinances, rules and regulations which relate to, concern or affect the services or type of services to be provided by this Contract.
34. **Confidentiality** Contractor, its employees, agents and or subcontractors may come in contact with documents that contain information regarding matters that must be kept confidential by County, including personally identifiable patient or client information. Even information that might not be considered confidential for the usual reasons of protecting non-public records should be considered by Contractor to be confidential.

Contractor agrees to maintain confidentiality of information and records as required by applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and rules and recognized standards of professional practice.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Contract, Contractor agrees to protect the confidentiality of any confidential information with which Contractor may come into contact in the process of performing its contracted services. This information includes but is not limited to all written, oral, visual and printed patient or client information, including but not limited to: names, addresses, social security numbers, date of birth, driver's license number, case numbers, services provided, social and economic conditions or circumstances, agency evaluation of personal information, and medical data.

Contractor shall not retain, copy, use, or disclose this information in any manner for any purpose that is not specifically permitted by this Contract. Violation of the confidentiality of patient or client information may, at the option of County, be considered a material breach of this Contract.

35. **Additional Contractor Responsibilities**
- A. To the extent Contractor is a mandated reporter of suspected child and/or dependent adult abuse and neglect, it shall ensure that its employees, agents, volunteers, subcontractors, and independent contractors are made aware of, understand, and comply with all reporting requirements. Contractor shall immediately notify County of any incident or condition resulting in injury, harm, or risk of harm to any child or dependent adult served under this Contract.
 - B. Contractor will immediately notify County of any active complaints, lawsuits, licensing or regulatory investigations, reports of fraud or malfeasance, or criminal investigations regarding its operations. Contractor agrees to work cooperatively with County in response to any investigation commenced by County with regard to this Contract or the clients served herein, including providing any/all records requested by County related thereto.
 - C. Contractor shall employ reasonable background check procedures on all employees, prospective employees, volunteers and consultants performing work involving direct contact with minor children or dependent adults under this Contract, including fingerprinting and criminal records checks, sexual offender registry checks, and reference checks, including both personal and professional references.
36. **Information Technology Security Requirements** This contract ☐shall not ☒shall be subject to Exhibit F, "Information Technology Security," which is attached and incorporated by this reference. Contractor's failure to comply with the requirements in Exhibit F is a material breach of this Agreement.

37. **Artificial Intelligence Technology (AI Technology)** includes any machine learning, deep learning, or artificial intelligence ("AI") technologies, such as statistical learning algorithms, models (including large language models), neural networks, and other AI tools or methodologies, as well as all software implementations and related hardware or equipment capable of generating content (e.g., text, images, video, audio, or computer code) based on user-supplied prompts.

County Data includes all information, data, materials, text, prompts, images, or other content provided to the Contractor under this Agreement or any other agreements between the Contractor and the County.

Responsibilities and Training:

Contractor is responsible for all information in the machine learning model, intellectual property rights associated with the information, and software and coded instructions used to generate AI content. County is responsible for the accuracy, utility and formulation of prompts and other inputs used to access the AI services and for decisions made, advice given, actions taken, and failures to take action based on AI content generated from AI services, except for AI content that is generated from erroneous or non-existing information in Contractor's machine learning models or from malfunctioning AI service software.

Contractor shall not use, or permit any third party to use, County Data to train, validate, update, improve, or modify any AI Technology, whether for Contractor's benefit or that of a third party, without the County's prior written authorization, which the County may grant or withhold at its sole discretion.

38. **Notification** Any notice or demand desired or required to be given hereunder shall be in writing and deemed given when personally delivered or deposited in the mail, postage prepaid, and addressed to the Parties as follows:

COUNTY OF NEVADA:		CONTRACTOR:	
Nevada County Behavioral Health Department, Health and Human Services Administration		O'Connell Research, Inc	
Address:	500 Crown Point Circle, Suite 120	Address	1600 Dwight Way
City, St, Zip	Grass Valley, CA 95945	City, St, Zip	Berkeley CA 94703
Attn:	Phebe Bell	Attn:	Kevin O'Connell
Email:	Phebe.bell@nevadacountyca.gov	Email:	kevin@oconnellresearch.com
Phone:	(530) 470-2784	Phone:	(415) 347-6379

Any notice so delivered personally shall be deemed to be received on the date of delivery, and any notice mailed shall be deemed to be received five (5) days after the date on which it was mailed.

Authority: All individuals executing this Contract on behalf of Contractor represent and warrant that they are authorized to execute and deliver this Contract on behalf of Contractor.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Contract to begin on the Effective Date.

COUNTY OF NEVADA:

By:  Date: 07/28/2025
Heidi Hall (07/28/2025 10:49:40 PDT)

Printed Name/Title: Honorable Heidi Hall, Chair, of the Board of Supervisors

By: 

Attest: Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, or designee

CONTRACTOR: O'Connell Research, Inc

By:  Date: 06/20/2025
Kevin O'Connell (06/20/2025 16:12 PDT)

Name: Kevin O'Connell

* Title: President

****If Contractor is a corporation, this Contract must be signed by two corporate officers; one of which must be the secretary of the corporation, and the other may be either the President or Vice President, unless an authenticated corporate resolution is attached delegating authority to a single officer to bind the corporation (California Corporations Code Sec. 313).***

Exhibits

- Exhibit A: [Schedule of Services](#)
- Exhibit B: [Schedule of Charges and Payments](#)
- Exhibit C: [Insurance Requirements](#)
- Exhibit D: [Behavioral Health Provisions](#)
- Exhibit E: [Schedule of HIPAA Provisions](#)
- Exhibit F: [Information Technology Security](#)
- [Summary Page](#)

**EXHIBIT A
SCHEDULE OF SERVICES
O'Connell Research, Inc.**

O'Connell Research, Inc. herein referred to as "Contractor", shall provide consultation and analysis services for the Nevada County Department of Behavioral Health, herein referred to as "County".

Services described below shall be performed for the purposes of reducing the number of incompetent to stand trial (IST) individuals committed to the State of California, Department of State Hospitals (DSH) implement CARE court and related collaborative courts, and support implementation of CalAIM JI.

Project shall coordinate, participate, facilitate, and actively utilize the collaborative community stakeholder workgroup to develop and implement local solutions that reduce the number of individuals with serious mental illness arrested and incarcerated for behavior connected to their illness and local solutions.

Project will leverage the existing multi-year partnership with the Stepping Up Workgroup to update analysis that includes a more targeted approach for IST reduction strategies. This will leverage quantitative data from the jail, behavioral health, courts, and probation as a starting point.

Task 1: Coordinate, Participate, and Facilitate Collaborative Community Stakeholder Workgroup

- a) Coordinate meetings with the workgroup as often as necessary, holding a minimum of one substantive quarterly meeting.
- b) Work with the collaborative community stakeholder workgroup to establish norms and processes to obtain concurrence and resolve disputes while developing, prioritizing, and implementing possible solutions.
- c) Organize collaborative meetings to look at shared goals and capacity to find alternatives to the current IST process.
- d) Monitor progress on strategies to reduce IST and on case review of individual found IST.
- e) Meet regularly with BH team to plan the Stepping up group work and design strategic initiatives for the future
- f) Ensure all requirements from DSH for this funding are met, including any needed reports are completed
- g) CARE Court: Assist BH with convening a planning group (possibly the same group as Stepping Up) and supporting implementation through analysis, process review, and documentation development
- h) Assist planning group with designing a workflow for CARE court and supporting implementation of CARE act, and related impacts on other BH-involved courts (civil and criminal)
- i) Support the CARE Court group in developing needed policies and processes for care court implementation – including any plans required by the state

- j) Participate and support CalAIM JI implementation across county partners in collaborative meetings, developing agendas and materials, and project management of specific requirements.
- k) Develop strategic and project plan for CalAIM for implementing agencies around the impacts of re-entry, funding outlook and collaborative planning.

Task 2: Data Analysis and Capacity Building

- a) Update datasets and merge information across data systems from the jail, probation, custody health, behavioral health, crisis response as well as programs such as specialty courts and IST referrals and placements.
- b) Integrate new program data as requested and feasible to system maps or inventories, such as filings and court hearings, other court based programs, crisis response, housing/homelessness, and pretrial services.
- c) Support the development of the CalAIM justice involved work related to data governance efforts by building use cases for justice and health integration as needed, as well as supporting efforts to build data governance strategies and integration approaches.
- d) Create a robust central tracking mechanism for people who have cases that are 1368 (doubt in competency) or 1370 (found incompetent) and develop active tracking systems to ensure the COUNTY can monitor IST trends as it pertains to the newly enacted growth cap on annual referrals that DSH.
- e) Develop a strategy for BH to track cases across different courts including piloting form based approach in collaboration with BH and partners.
- f) Author report on the overlapping impacts of different court reforms and BH programs, especially diversion program efficacy
- g) Support BH with analysis of likely volume of participants and expected fiscal and staffing impact of collaborative courts.
- h) Author data analysis section of Stepping Report to focus on jail composition and prevalence of BH needs in custody.

EXHIBIT “B”
SCHEDULE OF CHARGES AND PAYMENTS
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATES, INC.

County shall pay to Contractor a maximum not to exceed \$100,000 for the entire contract term of 1 year, for satisfactory performance of services in accordance with Exhibit “A”.

As compensation for services rendered to County, Contractor shall be reimbursed for actual salary/benefits and project costs incurred in carrying out the terms of the contract. Contractor shall bill County monthly, and each invoice shall state the amount of personnel hours/benefits and reimbursement expenses being claimed by funding source. Contractor agrees to be responsible for the validity of all invoices.

The project maximum is based on the following estimated project budget:

Position	Rate	Amount	Total
Associate – Data analysis Support or Writing Support	\$75	400	\$30,000
Senior Consultant – Project Director	\$150	427	\$64,000
Travel-6 trips to Nevada County(hotel+meals+transport)	\$1,000	6	\$6,000
		800	\$100,000

Rates are inclusive of all software, business expenses, including personnel, and administrative costs that will be incurred over the course of the proposed project. Mileage reimbursement rate will not exceed the current IRS allowable rate.

The hours and level of effort proposed above for staff are estimates. However, the project will not exceed the agreed-upon budget without prior discussion and authorization.

BILLING AND PAYMENT:

Should modification to or changes to the budget line items be needed, a written request for modification shall be submitted for approval to the Director and or his/her designee. County at its sole discretion shall determine if the change will continue to meet the contract objectives and approve or deny the request.

County shall review the billing and notify the Contractor within fifteen (15) working days if an individual item or group of costs is being questioned. Contractor has the option of delaying the entire claim pending resolution of the cost(s). Payments of approved billing shall be made within thirty (30) days of receipt of a complete, correct, and approved billing.

To expedite payment, Contractor shall reference the Resolution Number assigned to their Contract on their invoice.

Contractor shall submit invoices for services to:

HHSA Administration
Attn: BH Fiscal
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

EXHIBIT C INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Insurance. Contractor shall procure and maintain for the duration of the contract insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work hereunder by Contractor, its agents, representatives, or employees. Coverage shall be at least as broad as:

1. **Commercial General Liability CGL:** Insurance Services Office Form CG 00 01 covering CGL on an "occurrence" basis, including products and completed operations, property damage, bodily injury and personal & advertising injury with limits no less than **\$2,000,000** per occurrence. If a general aggregate limit applies, either the general aggregate limit shall apply separately to this project/location (ISO CG 25 03 or 25 04) or the general aggregate limit shall be twice the required occurrence limit.
2. **Automobile Liability:** Insurance Services Office Form Number CA 0001 covering, Code 1 (any auto), or if Contractor has no owned autos, Code 8 (hired) and 9 (non-owned), with limit no less than **\$40,000** per accident for bodily injury and property damage.
3. **Workers' Compensation:** CONTRACTOR AFFIRMS UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THEY ARE INDEPENDENT AND WITHOUT EMPLOYEES. CONTRACTOR AFFIRMS THEY CARRY HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY, HEALTHCARE SERVICE PLAN, OR DISABILITY INSURANCE COVERING CONTRACTOR FOR BODILY INJURY OR DISEASE. CONTRACTOR FURTHER AGREES TO WAIVE ALL RIGHTS TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION BENEFITS FOR ANY ACCIDENT FOR BODILY INJURY OR DISEASE. CONTRACTOR HEREBY GRANTS TO COUNTY A WAIVER OF ANY RIGHT TO SUBROGATION WHICH ANY INSURER OF SAID CONTRACTOR MAY ACQUIRE AGAINST THE COUNTY BY VIRTUE OF THE PAYMENT OF ANY LOSS UNDER SUCH INSURANCE.
4. **Professional Liability (Errors and Omissions):** Insurance with limit no less than **\$1,000,000** per occurrence or claim, **\$1,000,000** aggregate.

If Contractor maintains broader coverage and/or higher limits than the minimums shown above, County requires and shall be entitled to the broader coverage and/or the higher limits maintained by Contractor. Any available insurance proceeds in excess of the specified minimum limits of insurance and coverage shall be available to County

Other Insurance Provisions:

The insurance policies are to contain, or be endorsed to contain, the following provisions:

1. **Additional Insured Status:** County, its officers, employees, agents, and volunteers are to be covered as additional insureds on the CGL policy with respect to liability arising out of the work or operations performed by or on behalf of Contractor including materials, parts, or equipment furnished in connection with such work or operations. General liability coverage can be provided in the form of an endorsement to Contractor's insurance (at least as broad as ISO Form CG 20 10 11 85 or if not available, then through the addition of both CG 20 10, CG 20 25, CG 20 33, or CG 20 38; and CG 20 37 forms if later revisions are used.)
2. **Primary Coverage** For any claims related to this contract, **Contractor's insurance shall be primary** insurance primary coverage at least as broad as ISO CG 20 01 04 13 as respects County, its officers, employees, agents, and volunteers. Any insurance or self-insurance

- maintained by the County, its officers, employees, agents, and volunteers shall be excess of Contractor's insurance and shall not contribute with it.
3. **Umbrella or Excess Policy** The Contractor may use Umbrella or Excess Policies to provide the liability limits as required in this agreement. This form of insurance will be acceptable provided that all of the Primary and Umbrella or Excess Policies shall provide all of the insurance coverages herein required, including, but not limited to, primary and non-contributory, additional insured, Self-Insured Retentions (SIRs), indemnity, and defense requirements. Umbrella or Excess policies shall be provided on a true "following form" or broader coverage basis, with coverage at least as broad as provided on the underlying Commercial General Liability insurance. No insurance policies maintained by the Additional Insureds, whether primary or excess, and which also apply to a loss covered hereunder, shall be called upon to contribute to a loss until the Contractor's primary and excess liability policies are exhausted.
 4. **Notice of Cancellation** This policy shall not be changed without first giving thirty (30) days prior written notice and ten (10) days prior written notice of cancellation for non-payment of premium to County.
 5. **Waiver of Subrogation** Contractor hereby grants to County a waiver of any right to subrogation which any insurer or said Contractor may acquire against County by virtue of the payment of any loss under such insurance. Contractor agrees to obtain any endorsement that may be necessary to affect this waiver of subrogation, but this provision applies regardless of whether or not the County has received a waiver of subrogation endorsement from the insurer.
 6. **Sole Proprietors** If Contractor is a Sole Proprietor and has no employees, they are not required to have Workers Compensation coverage. Contractor shall sign a statement attesting to this condition, and shall agree they have no rights, entitlements or claim against County for any type of employment benefits or workers' compensation or other programs afforded to County employees.
 7. **Self-Insured Retentions** must be declared to and approved by the County. The County may require the Contractor to provide proof of ability to pay losses and related investigations, claims administration, and defense expenses within the retention. The Policy language shall provide, or be endorsed to provide, that the self-insured retention may be satisfied by either the named insured or County. The CGL and any policies, including Excess liability policies, may not be subject to a self-insured retention (SIR) or deductible that exceeds **\$25,000** unless approved in writing by the County. Any and all deductibles and SIRs shall be the sole responsibility of the Contractor or subcontractor who procured such insurance and shall not apply to the Indemnified Additional Insured Parties. County may deduct from any amounts otherwise due Contractor to fund the SIR/deductible. Policies shall NOT contain any self-insured retention (SIR) provision that limits the satisfaction of the SIR to the Named. The policy must also provide that Defense costs, including the Allocated Loss Adjustment Expenses, will satisfy the SIR or deductible. County reserves the right to obtain a copy of any policies and endorsements for verification.
 8. **Acceptability of Insurers:** Insurance is to be placed with insurers authorized to conduct business in the State with a current A.M. Best's rating of no less than A:VII, unless otherwise acceptable to County.
 9. **Claims Made Policies** if any of the required policies provide coverage on a claims-made basis:
 - a. The Retroactive Date must be shown and must be before the date of the contract or the beginning of contract work.
 - b. Insurance must be maintained, and evidence of insurance must be provided for at least five (5) years after completion of the contract of work.
 - c. If the coverage is canceled or non-renewed, and not replaced with another **claims-made policy form with a Retroactive Date**, prior to the contract effective date, Contractor

must purchase "extended reporting" coverage for a minimum of **five (5)** years after completion of contract work.

10. **Verification of Coverage** Contractor may be requested to furnish County with original Certificates of Insurance including all required amendatory endorsements (or copies of the applicable policy language effecting coverage required by this clause) and the County reserves the right to request a copy of the Declarations and Endorsement page of the CGL policy listing all policy endorsements to County before work begins. Failure to obtain and provide verification of the requested/required documents prior to the work beginning shall not waive Contractor's obligation to provide them. County reserves the right to require complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies, including endorsements required by these specifications, at any time.
11. **Subcontractors** Contractor shall require and verify that all subcontractors maintain insurance meeting all the requirements stated herein, and Contractor shall ensure that County is an additional insured on insurance required from subcontractors. For CGL coverage subcontractors shall provide coverage with a format at least as broad as CG 20 38 04 13.
12. **Special Risks or Circumstances** County reserves the right to modify these requirements, including limits, based on the nature of the risk, prior experience, insurer, coverage, or other special circumstances.
13. **Premium Payments** The insurance companies shall have no recourse against County and funding agencies, its officers, and employees or any of them for payment of any premiums or assessments under any policy issued by a mutual insurance company.
14. **Material Breach** Failure of Contractor to maintain the insurance required by this Contract, or to comply with any of the requirements of this section, shall constitute a material breach of the entire Contract.
15. **Certificate Holder** the Certificate Holder on insurance certificates and related documents should read as follows:

County of Nevada
950 Maidu Ave.
Nevada City, CA 95959

Upon initial award of the Contract to your firm, you may be instructed to send the actual documents to a County contact person for preliminary compliance review.

Certificates which amend or alter the coverage during the term of the Contract, including updated certificates due to policy renewal, should be sent directly to Contract Administrator.

EXHIBIT D
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVISIONS

Certain programs will be subject to specific local, state, or federal requirements depending on their scope of services or work provided. Not all provisions below will apply to all behavioral health programs, so please be familiar with the ones your specific program is held to.

1. Laws, Statutes, and Regulations:

- A. Contractor agrees to comply with the Bronzan-McCorquodale Act (Welfare and Institutions Code, Division 5, 6, and 9, Section 5600 et seq. and Section 4132.44), Title 9 and Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, Title XIX of the Social Security Act, State Department of Health Care Services Policy Letters, and Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 434.6 and 438.608 which relate to, concern or affect the Services to be provided under this Contact.
- B. Clean Air Act and Federal Water Pollution Control:
Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.), as amended, which provides that contracts and subcontracts of amounts in excess of \$100,000 shall contain a provision that Contractor and any subcontractor shall comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issues pursuant to the Clear Air Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. Violations shall be reported to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.
- C. For the provision of services as provided herein, Contractor shall not employ or contract with providers or other individuals and entities excluded from participation in Federal Health Care Programs under either Section 1128 or 1128A of the Social Security Act and shall screen all individuals and entities employed or retained to provide services for eligibility to participate in Federal Health Care programs (see <http://oig.hhs.gov/exclusions/index.asp> and <http://files.medical.ca.gov/pubsdoco/SandILanding.asp>). Contractor shall check monthly and immediately report to the department if there is a change of status.
- D. Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Act:
Contractor shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Act which requires that state agencies, their contractors, consultants or services providers that serve a substantial number of non-English-speaking people employ a sufficient amount of bilingual persons in order to provide certain information and render certain services in a language other than English.
- E. Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment:
Contractor certifies that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 USC 1352. Contractor shall also disclose to Department of Health Care Services (“DHCS”) any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award.
- F. Ownership: Contractor shall provide written verification of compliance with CFR, Title 42, sections 455.101 and 455.104. This verification will be provided to Nevada County Behavioral Health (“NCBH”) by December 31 of each year and when prescribed below.

- (a) Who must provide disclosures. The Medi-Cal agency must obtain disclosures from disclosing entities, fiscal agents, and managed care entities. Contractor and any of its subcontractors/network providers providing services pursuant to this Contract shall submit the disclosures below to NCBH regarding the network providers' (disclosing entities') ownership and control. Contractor's network providers must submit updated disclosures to NCBH upon submitting the provider application, before entering into or renewing the network providers' contracts, and within 35 days after any change in the provider's ownership and/or annually.
- (b) Disclosures to be provided:
- The name and address of any person (individual or corporation) with an ownership or control interest in the disclosing entity, fiscal agent, or managed care entity. The address for corporate entities must include as applicable primary business address, every business location, and P.O. Box address.
 - Date of birth and Social Security Number (in the case of an individual).
 - Other tax identification number (in the case of a corporation) with an ownership or control interest in the disclosing entity (or fiscal agent or managed care entity) or in any subcontractor in which the disclosing entity (or fiscal agent or managed care entity) has a five (5) percent or more interest.
 - Whether the person (individual or corporation) with an ownership or control interest in the disclosing entity (or fiscal agent or managed care entity) is related to another person with ownership or control interest in the disclosing entity as a spouse, parent, child, or sibling; or whether the person (individual or corporation) with an ownership or control interest in any subcontractor in which the disclosing entity (or fiscal agent or managed care entity) has a five (5) percent or more interest is related to another person with ownership or control interest in the disclosing entity as a spouse, parent, child, or sibling.
 - The name of any other disclosing entity (or fiscal agent or managed care entity) in which an owner of the disclosing entity (or fiscal agent or managed care entity) has an ownership or control interest.
 - The name, address, date of birth, and Social Security Number of any managing employee of the disclosing entity (or fiscal agent or managed care entity).
- (c) When the disclosures must be provided.
- I. Disclosures from providers or disclosing entities. Disclosure from any provider or disclosing entity is due at any of the following times:
 - i. Upon the provider or disclosing entity submitting the provider application.
 - ii. Upon the provider or disclosing entity executing the provider Contract.
 - iii. Upon request of the Medi-Cal agency during the re-validation of enrollment process under § 455.414.
 - iv. Within 35 days after any change in ownership of the disclosing entity.
 - II. Disclosures from fiscal agents. Disclosures from fiscal agents are due at any of the following times:
 - i. Upon the fiscal agent submitting the proposal in accordance with the State's procurement process.
 - ii. Upon the fiscal agent executing the contract with the State.
 - iii. Upon renewal or extension of the contract.
 - iv. Within 35 days after any change in ownership of the fiscal agent.

- III. Disclosures from managed care entities. Disclosures from managed care entities (MCOs, PIHPs, PAHPs, and HIOs), except PCCMs are due at any of the following times:
 - i. Upon the managed care entity submitting the proposal in accordance with the State's procurement process.
 - ii. Upon the managed care entity executing the contract with the State.
 - iii. Upon renewal or extension of the contract.
 - iv. Within 35 days after any change in ownership of the managed care entity.
 - v. Disclosures from PCCMs. PCCMs will comply with disclosure requirements under paragraph (c)(1) of this section.
 - (d) To whom must the disclosures be provided. All disclosures must be provided to the Med-Cal agency.
 - (e) Consequences for failure to provide required disclosures. Federal financial participation ("FFP") is not available in payments made to a disclosing entity that fails to disclose ownership or control information as required by this section.
- G. Contractor shall have a method to verify whether services billed to Medi-Cal were actually furnished to Medi-Cal beneficiaries. Contractor's verification method shall be based on random samples and will specify the percentage of total services provided that shall be verified. Contractor's verification process shall be submitted to and approved by the NCBH Quality Assurance Manager. Contractor will report the outcome of service verification activities to the NCBH Quality Assurance Manager quarterly.

2. Client/Patient Records:

Where this contract is for services relating to the mental health or the medical needs or condition of clients or patients:

- A. HEALTH RECORDS: Contractor shall maintain adequate mental and/or medical health records of each individual client/patient which shall include a record of services provided by the various professional personnel in sufficient detail to make possible an evaluation of services, and which shall contain all necessary data as required by NCBH and State or federal regulations, including but not limited to records of client/patient interviews and progress notes.
- B. TREATMENT PLAN: Contractor shall also maintain a record of services provided, including the goals and objectives of any treatment plan and the progress toward achieving those goals and objectives. County shall be allowed to review all client/patient record(s) during site visits, or at any reasonable time. Specialized mental health services provided by Contractor shall be in accordance and as defined by the California Code of Regulation Title 9, Chapter 11, and in compliance with Nevada County's Mental Health Plan.
- C. LOCATION / OWNERSHIP OF RECORDS: If Contractor works primarily in a County facility, records shall be kept in County's facility and owned by County. If Contractor works in another facility or a school setting, the records shall be owned and kept by Contractor and upon demand by County, a copy of all original records shall be delivered to County within a reasonable time from the conclusion of this Contract.
- D. CONFIDENTIALITY: Such records and information shall be maintained in a manner and pursuant to procedures designed to protect the confidentiality of the client/patient records. Contractor agrees to maintain confidentiality of information and records as required by applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and rules, and recognized standards of professional practice and further agrees to hold County harmless from any breach of confidentiality.

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Exhibit D

Professional Services Agreement-HHSA – Behavioral Health Provisions

- E. RETENTION OF RECORDS: Except as provided below, Contractor shall maintain and preserve all clinical records related to this Contract for seven (7) years from the date of discharge for adult clients, and records of clients under the age of eighteen (18) at the time of treatment must be retained until either one (1) year beyond the clients eighteenth (18th) birthday or for a period of seven (7) years from the date of discharge, whichever is later. Psychologists' records involving minors must be kept until the minor's 25th birthday. Contractor shall also contractually require the maintenance of such records in the possession of any third party performing work related to this Contract for the same period of time. Such records shall be retained beyond the seven year period, if any audit involving such records is then pending, until the audit findings are resolved. The obligation to ensure the maintenance of the records beyond the initial seven year period shall arise only if County notifies Contractor of the commencement of an audit prior to the expiration of the seven year period.

To the extent Contractor is a Managed Care Organization ("MCO"), a Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan, a Prepaid Ambulatory Health Plan ("PAHP"), or a Medi-Cal services provider, Contractor shall maintain and preserve all records related to this contract for ten (10) years from the start date of this Contract, pursuant to CFR 42 438.3(u). If the client or patient is a minor, the client's or patient's health service records shall be retained for a minimum of ten (10) years from the close of the State fiscal year in which the Contract was in effect, or the date the client or patient reaches 18 years of age, whichever is longer, regardless of when services were terminated with the client. Health service records may be retained in either a written or an electronic format. Contractor shall also contractually require the maintenance of such records in the possession of any third party performing work related to this contract for the same period of time. Such records shall be retained beyond the ten (10) year period if any audit involving such records is then pending, and until the audit findings are resolved. The obligation to ensure the maintenance of the records beyond the initial ten (10) year period shall arise only if County notifies Contractor of the commencement of an audit prior to the expiration of the ten (10) year period.

- F. REPORTS: Contractor shall provide reports to County from time to time as necessary, and as reasonably requested by County. Contractor agrees to provide County with reports that may be required by County, State or Federal agencies for compliance with this Contract.
- G. COPIES OF RECORDS: Upon termination of this Contract, Contractor agrees to cooperate with client/patients, County and subsequent providers with respect to the orderly and prompt transfer of client or patient records. This Contract does not preclude Contractor from assessing reasonable charges for the expense of transferring such records if appropriate. Said charges shall be twenty-five Cents (\$0.25) per page, plus the cost of labor, not to exceed Sixteen Dollars (\$16.00) per hour or pro rata fraction thereof, for actual time required to photocopy said records.
- H. CULTURAL COMPETENCE: Contractor shall provide services pursuant to this Contract in accordance with current State statutory, regulatory and policy provisions related to cultural and linguistic competence as defined in the DHCS's most recent Information Notice(s) regarding Cultural Competence Plan Requirements ("CCPR"), that establish standards and criteria for the entire County Mental Health System, including Medi-Cal services, Mental Health Services Act ("MHSA"), and Realignment as part of working toward achieving cultural and linguistic competence. The CCPR standards and criteria as cited in California Code of Regulations, Title, 9, Section 1810.410, are applicable to organizations/agencies that provide mental health services via Medi-Cal, MHSA, and/or Realignment.

- I. PATIENTS' RIGHTS: Patients' Rights shall be in compliance with Welfare and Institutions Code Division 5, Section 5325 et seq.; and California Code of Regulations, Title 9, Section 862 et seq and Title 42 CFR Section 438.100.
- J. HOURS OF OPERATION: Pursuant to Title 42 CFR, Section 438.206 (c)(1)(ii) if Contractor also serves individuals who are not Medi-Cal beneficiaries, the Contractor shall require that the hours of operation during which Contractor offers services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries are no less than and comparable to the hours of operation during which the Contractor offers services to non-Medi-Cal beneficiaries.
- K. WRITTEN MATERIALS: Contractor shall ensure that all written materials it provides or is otherwise required to make available to the client, including, but not limited to, all documents requiring signature or authorization of the client, shall be in a minimum of 12 point font, and a minimum of 18 point font for written materials required to be in large print, including but not limited to any Contractor Brochures, Consent to Treatment, Treatment Plans, etc.

3. 42 C.F.R. Laws and Regulations: MCO, Prepaid inpatient health plan ("PIHP"), PAHP

To the extent Contractor is a MCO, a PIHP, a PAHP, a Primary Care Case Manager, or a Medi-Cal Services Provider, Contractor shall comply with, and report to County any violation of or non-compliance with, the following requirements and restrictions:

- A. DEBARRED, SUSPENDED, CONTRACTORS: Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. Section 438.610, Contractor shall not knowingly have a relationship with the following:
 - a.1 An individual or entity that is debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from participating in procurement activities under the Federal Acquisition Regulation or from participating in non-procurement activities under regulations issued under Executive Order No. 12549 or under guidelines implementing Executive Order No. 12549.
 - a.2 An individual or entity who is an affiliate, as defined in the Federal Acquisition Regulation at 48 CFR 2.101, of a person described in this section.
- B. EMPLOYING/CONTRACTING WITH PROVIDERS WHO ARE EXCLUDED: Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. Section 438.214(d), Contractor shall not employ or contract with providers or other individuals and entities excluded from participation in federal health care programs (as defined in section 1128B(f) of the Social Security Act) under either Section 1128, 1128A, or 1156 of the Social Security Act. FFP is not available for amounts expended for providers excluded by Medicare, Medicaid, or the State Children's Health Insurance Program, except for emergency services.

The types of relationships prohibited by this section, are as follows:

- (a) A director, officer, or partner of Contractor.
- (b) A subcontractor of Contractor, as governed by 42 CFR §438.230.
- (c) A person with beneficial ownership of 5 percent or more of Contractor's equity.
- (d) A network provider or person with an employment, consulting, or other arrangement with Contractor for the provision of items and services that are significant and material to Contractor's obligations under this Contract.
- (e) Contractor shall not employ or contract with, directly or indirectly, such individuals or entities for the furnishing of health care, utilization review, medical social work, administrative services, management, or provision of medical services (or the establishment of policies or provision of operational support for such services).

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Exhibit D

Professional Services Agreement-HHSA – Behavioral Health Provisions

If County finds that Contractor is not in compliance, County:

- (a) Shall notify the Secretary of State of the noncompliance; and
- (b) May continue an existing Contract with Contractor unless the Secretary directs otherwise, which shall serve as a basis to immediately terminate this Contract; or
- (c) May not renew or otherwise extend the duration of an existing Contract with Contractor unless the Secretary provides to the State and to Congress a written statement describing compelling reasons that exist for renewing or extending the Contract despite the prohibited affiliations.
- (d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit or otherwise affect any remedies available to the U.S. under sections 1128, 1128A or 1128B of the Act.

Unless specifically prohibited by this Contract or by federal or state law, Contractor may delegate duties and obligations of Contractor under this contract to subcontracting entities if Contractor determines that the subcontracting entities selected are able to perform the delegated duties in an adequate manner in compliance with the requirements of this contract.

Contractor shall maintain ultimate responsibility for adhering to and otherwise fully complying with all terms and conditions of its contract with the County, notwithstanding any relationship(s) that the Mental Health Plan may have with any subcontractor.

- C. RECOVERY OF OVERPAYMENTS: Contractor is responsible for the refund of any overpayments and shall notify County **within 30 calendar days** when it has identified payments in excess of amounts specified for reimbursement of Medicaid services authorized under this Contract.

County shall maintain the right to suspend payments to Contractor when County determines there is a credible allegation of fraud.

Contractor shall comply with County's retention policies for the treatment of recoveries of all overpayments from Contractor, including specifically the retention policies for the treatment of recoveries of overpayments due to fraud, waste, or abuse.

- D. REASONABLE ACCESS & ACCOMMODATIONS: Contractor shall ensure that it provides physical access, reasonable accommodations, and accessible equipment for Medicaid enrollees with physical or mental disabilities. [42 CFR 438.206(c)(3)].

- E. BENEFICIARY'S RIGHTS: Contractor shall inform Medi-Cal Beneficiaries of their following rights:

- Beneficiary grievance, appeal, and fair hearing procedures and timeframes as specified in 42 CFR 438.400 through 42 CFR 438.424.
- The beneficiary's right to file grievances and appeals and the requirements and timeframes for filing.
- The availability of assistance to the beneficiary with filing grievances and appeals.
- The beneficiary's right to request a State fair hearing after Contractor has made a determination on an enrollee's appeal, which is adverse to the beneficiary.
- The beneficiary's right to request continuation of benefits that Contractor seeks to reduce or terminate during an appeal or state fair hearing filing, if filed within the allowable timeframes,

although the beneficiary may be liable for the cost of any continued benefits while the appeal or state fair hearing is pending if the final decision is adverse to the beneficiary.

- F. EXCLUSION LISTS AND STATUS: Contractor and any person with an ownership or control interest or who is an agent or managing employee of Contractor agrees to routine federal and state database checks pursuant to 42 C.F.R. 455.436 to confirm Contractor's identity and determining Contractor's exclusion status.

Consistent with the requirements of 42 C.F.R. Section 455.436, the Contractor must confirm the identify and determine the exclusion status of all providers (employees and network providers) and any subcontractor, as well as any person with an ownership or control interest, or who is an agent of managing employee of the of the Mental Health Plan through routine checks of Federal and State databases. This includes the Social Security Administration's Death Master File, the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System, the Office of Inspector General's List of Excluded Individuals/Entities, the System for Award Management, as well as the Department's Medi-Cal Suspended and Ineligible Provider List.

If the Contractor finds that a party is excluded, it must promptly notify the County and take action consistent with 42 C.F.R. Section 438.610(c). The Contractor shall not certify or pay any provider with Medi-Cal funds, and any such inappropriate payments or overpayments may be subject to recovery and/or be the basis for other sanctions by the appropriate authority.

- G. SERVICE VERIFICATIONS: Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. Section 438.608(a)(5), the Contractor, and/or any subcontractor, to the extent that the subcontractor is delegated responsibility by the Contractor for coverage of services and payment of claims under this Contract, shall implement and maintain arrangements or procedures that include provisions to verify, by sampling or other methods, whether services that have been represented to have been delivered by network providers were received by enrollees and the application of such verification processes on a regular basis.

EXHIBIT E
SCHEDULE OF HIPAA PROVISIONS
FOR COVERED ENTITY CONTRACTORS

HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPAA):
HEALTH CARE PROVIDER AGREEMENT

Contractor acknowledges that it is a “health care provider” and therefore is a Covered Entity, for purposes of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (“HIPAA”) and the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act of 2009 (“HITECH”) and therefore is directly subject to the privacy, security and breach notification requirements therein and the civil and criminal penalties and shall implement its standards.

Contractor agrees to:

1. Contractor shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations pertaining to the confidentiality of individually identifiable protected health information (PHI) or personally identifiable information (PII) including, but not limited to, requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, the California Welfare and Institutions Code regarding confidentiality of client information and records and all relevant County policies and procedures.
2. Contractor shall not use or disclose PHI or PII other than as permitted or required by law.
3. Develop and maintain a written information privacy and security program that includes the designation of Privacy and Security Officer and establishes and maintains appropriate safeguards to prevent any use or disclosure of PHI other than as provided for by this Contract and applicable law. Safeguards shall include administrative, physical, and technical safeguards appropriate to the size and complexity of Contractor’s operations and the nature and scope of its activities. Contractor will provide County with information concerning such safeguards as County may reasonably request from time to time.
4. Track disclosures and make available the information required to provide an accounting of disclosures if requested by the individual or County in accordance with 45 CFR §164.528.
5. Ensure sufficient training and utilize reasonable measures to ensure compliance with requirements of this Contract by Contractor’s workforce members who use or disclose PHI (in any form) to assist in the performance of functions or activities under this contract; and discipline such employees who intentionally violate any provisions of this Contract, including termination of employment. Workforce member training shall be documented and such documents retained for the period of this Contract and made available to County for inspection if requested.
6. Take prompt corrective action in the event of any security incident or any unauthorized use or disclosure of PHI to cure any such deficiencies and to take any action required by applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

7. Report to County any security incident or any unauthorized use or disclosure of PHI (in any form. Security incidents include attempted or successful unauthorized access, use, disclosure, modification, or destruction of information or interference with system operations in an information system. Contractor shall make this report by the next business day following discovery of the use, disclosure, or security incident. Any unauthorized use or disclosure or security incident shall be treated as discovered by Contractor on the first day on which such use or disclosure or security incident is known to Contractor, including any person, other than the individual committing the unauthorized use or disclosure or security incident, that is an employee, officer or other agent of Contractor, or who should reasonably have known such unauthorized activities occurred. Reports should be made by email to privacy.officer@nevadacountyca.gov or by calling (530) 265-1740
8. Make Contractor's internal practices, books, and records relating to the use and disclosure of Protected Health Information received from or created or received by Contractor on behalf of County available to County upon request. In addition, Contractor will make these items available to the Secretary of the United States Health and Human Services for purposes of determining County's or Contractor's compliance with HIPAA and its implementing regulations (in all events Contractor shall immediately notify County of any such request, and shall provide County with copies of any such materials).
9. Contractor agrees that this Contract may be amended from time to time by County if and to the extent required by the provision of 42 U.S.C. § 1171, et seq., enacted by HIPAA and regulations promulgated thereunder, in order to assure that this Contract is consistent therewith; and authorize termination of the Contract by County if County determines that Contractor has violated a material term of this Contract.
10. Ensure that Contractor will enter into "Business Associate Agreements" as required by HIPAA including provisions that the Business Associate agrees to comply with the same restrictions, conditions and terms that apply to Contractor with respect to this Contract and with applicable requirements of HIPAA and HITECH. The Business Associate Agreement must be a written contract including permissible uses and disclosures and provisions where the Business Associate agrees to implement reasonable and appropriate security measures to protect the information (PHI or ePHI) it creates, receives, maintains or transmits on behalf of Contractor or County with respect to this Contract.

EXHIBIT F

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY

1. Notification of Data Security Incident

For purposes of this section, "Data Security Incident" is defined as unauthorized access to the Contractor's business and/or business systems by a third party, which access could potentially expose County data or systems to unauthorized access, disclosure, or misuse. In the event of a Data Security Incident, Contractor must notify County **in writing as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after Contractor determines a Data Security Incident has occurred**. Notice should be made to all parties referenced in the "Notices" section of the Agreement. Notice must reference this contract number. Notice under this section must include the date of incident, Contractor's systems and/or locations which were affected, and County services or data affected. The duty to notify under this section is broad, requiring disclosure whether any impact to County data is known at the time, to enable County to take immediate protective actions of its data and cloud environments.

Failure to notify under this section is a material breach, and County may immediately terminate the Agreement for failure to comply.

2. Data Location

2.1 Contractor shall not store or transfer non-public County of Nevada data outside the United States. This prohibition includes backup data and Disaster Recovery locations. The Contractor will permit its personnel and contractors to access County of Nevada data remotely only as required to provide technical support. Remote access to data from outside the continental United States is prohibited unless expressly approved in advance and in writing by the County.

2.2 The Contractor must notify the County **in writing within 48 hours** of any location changes to Contractor's data center(s) that will process or store County data. Notice should be made to all parties referenced in the "Notices" section of the Agreement.

3. Data Encryption

3.1 The Contractor shall encrypt all non-public County data in transit regardless of the transit mechanism.

3.2 The Contractor shall encrypt all non-public County data at rest.

3.3 Encryption algorithms shall be AES-128 or better.

4. Cybersecurity Awareness and Training

The County maintains a robust Cybersecurity Awareness and Training program intended to assist employees and contractors with maintaining current knowledge of changing cybersecurity threats and countermeasures. Any contractor that is assigned a County network account will be assigned User Awareness training and must complete it within the time period it is assigned. Training completion progress is monitored by sponsor departments and non-compliant users may have their account suspended or restricted.

The County conducts email Phish testing on a regular basis to expose account holders to the types of potential threats.

Contractor will maintain a Cybersecurity Awareness and Training program for training staff at a minimum of once a year. Contractor will maintain records of the program for review by the County when requested.

SUMMARY OF CONTRACT

O'CONNELL RESEARCH, INC

Description of Services: Support the Stepping Up collaborative and design the process and flow for CARE Court mandate for Nevada County

SUMMARY OF MATERIAL TERMS

Max Annual Price: \$100,000

Contract Start Date: 07/01/2025

Contract End Date: 06/30/2026

Liquidated Damages: N/A

INSURANCE POLICIES

Commercial General Liability	(\$2,000,000)	Professional Errors and Omissions	(\$1,000,000)
Automobile Liability	(\$40,000)		

FUNDING

1589-40110-493-8301 / 521520	
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LICENSES AND PREVAILING WAGES

Designate all required licenses: N/A

NOTICE & IDENTIFICATION

COUNTY OF NEVADA:		CONTRACTOR:	
Nevada County Behavioral Health Department, Health and Human Services Administration		O'Connell Research, Inc	
Address:	500 Crown Point Circle, Suite 120	Address	1600 Dwight Way
City, St, Zip	Grass Valley, CA 95945	City, St, Zip	Berkeley CA 94703
Attn:	Phebe Bell	Attn:	Kevin O'Connell
Email:	Phebe.bell@nevadacountyca.gov	Email:	kevin@oconnellresearch.com
Phone:	(530) 470-2784	Phone:	(415) 347-6379

Contractor is a: (check all that apply)				EDD Worksheet Required	Yes ☒	No ☐
Corporation: ☒	Calif. ☐	Other ☐	LLC ☐	Additional Terms & Conditions Included		
Non- Profit: ☐	Corp. ☐			(Grant Specific)	Yes ☒	No ☐
Partnership: ☐	Calif. ☐	Other ☐	LLP ☐	Subrecipient	Yes ☐	No ☒
Person: ☐	Indiv. ☐	DBA ☐	Ass'n ☐	Other ☐		

ATTACHMENTS

Exhibit A: Schedule of Services	Exhibit D: Behavioral Health Provisions
Exhibit B: Schedule of Charges and Payments	Exhibit E: Schedule of HIPAA Provisions
Exhibit C: Insurance Requirements	Exhibit F: Information Technology Security

NEVADA COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

DECLARATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYEES/CONTRACTORS

POLICY:

The Nevada County Behavioral Health Department ("BHD") will not employ or engage as contractors any Ineligible Person for any department or program receiving federal funds.

An "Ineligible Person" is any individual or entity who: (a) is currently excluded, suspended, debarred or otherwise ineligible to participate in Federal health care programs or in Federal procurement or non-procurement programs; or, (b) has been convicted of a criminal offence related to the provision of health care items or services, but has not yet been debarred, or otherwise declared ineligible.

INSTRUCTIONS:

As a prospective employee or contractor with the BHD, please complete the declaration under penalty of perjury below. If you are or the entity you represent is an Ineligible Person as defined above, please immediately notify the BHD Director.

DECLARATION

I, Kevin O'Connell (name) on behalf of

☒ myself, or O'Connell Research

declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that:

☒ I am not, or
the entity I represent is not

an Ineligible Person as defined in the Policy recited above. If, while employed or engaged as a contractor by BHD, I (or the entity I represent) become an Ineligible Person, I will notify the BHD Director immediately.

Kevin O'Connell
Kevin O'Connell (06/20/2025 16:12 PDT)

(Signature)

06/20/2025

(Date)