

Health and Human Services Agency

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BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: November 12, 2024

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Phebe Bell

SUBJECT: Resolution approving execution of a Contract with FREED Independent

Living Center, DBA FREED for services related to providing a landlord

liaison program to expedite housing individuals experiencing

homelessness in the total maximum amount of \$878,141 for the term of

November 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 and directs the Auditor-

Controller to amend the Behavioral Health Budget for fiscal year 2024/25

(4/5 Affirmative Vote Required)

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

<u>FUNDING</u>: This contract will be funded with Encampment Resolution Fund (ERF) award to Behavioral Health from the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) and the Business, Consumer and Housing Agency (BCSH) agency. There are no county general fund dollars required.

<u>BACKGROUND:</u> On April 18, 2024, Nevada County Behavioral Health received notice of award of \$2,508,622 in ERF funds. On June 25, 2024 the Board approved acceptance of the award (SR 24-0868) granting authority to the Director of Behavioral Health to sign all necessary documents to complete the award process. Per SR 24-0868, the Department conducted a Request for Information (RFI) process seeking a qualified provider for services outlined by the department in the ERF proposal. Having completed that process, the Department is seeking approval today of a services contract with FREED, the selected provider for the ERF project.

Through FREED, awarded funds will be used to establish the Landlord Liaison Team (LLT). The LLT will provide dedicated staffing to assist unsheltered homeless households in gaining permanent stable housing. The LLT project will administer a variety of resources and flexible funding aimed at incentivizing landlords and property managers to work with the LLT to house vulnerable county residents. The program will offer one-time signing bonuses, risk mitigation funds, holding fees, and specialized landlord-tenant mediation services to landlords. Participants in the program will be offered assistance in applying for housing units, applying for long term subsidies and gaining skills related to housing stability. The LLT will be a key

partner in a coordinated encampment response process that includes street outreach programs, law enforcement, interim housing and emergency shelter providers, and other County Departments.

It is recommended that the Board approve this Contract as it provides a much needed service to help unsheltered individuals obtain housing and successfully stay housed.

Approved by: Phebe Bell, Behavioral Health Director