



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

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

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

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

**Behavioral Health Medical Director:**  
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**NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**Board Agenda Memo**

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**MEETING DATE:** May 28, 2024  
**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** **Phebe Bell**  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution approving execution of a renewal contract with BHC Sierra Vista Hospital, Inc. d/b/a Sierra Vista Hospital for psychiatric inpatient hospitalization services under Welfare & Institutions Code Section 5150 for referred County clients for the contract term of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025 in the maximum contract price of \$100,000, not to exceed \$50,000 each fiscal year.

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the attached Resolution.

**FUNDING:** Services are mandated. Funding is provided by Realignments and Medi-Cal reimbursement. Services were budgeted in the department's FY 2023/24 budget and there are no county general fund dollars required in the agreement.

**BACKGROUND:**  
The contract provides for 24-hour locked acute inpatient mental health services for residents of Nevada County who meet criteria for 5150 placement and are deemed appropriate by the County. Nevada County contracts with two BHC's (Behavioral Health Care) facilities, BHC Sierra Vista Hospital and BHC Heritage Oaks Hospital.

Under Managed Care, counties are required to contract with hospitals, which have previously provided a significant amount of resident Fee-For-Services Medi-Cal inpatient services and these BHC facilities are designated hospitals for Nevada County Behavioral Health. Due to limited availability of inpatient psychiatric beds statewide, Nevada County contracts with an array of psychiatric hospital facilities in the surrounding area to ensure adequate bed space for our patients.

This contract is retroactive due to being unable to obtain timely responses from the contractor for previous and current fiscal year contracts. Contract was continued to be budgeted for in FY 23/24 due to our need to place residents at this facility.

It is recommended that the Board approve this renewal contract with Sierra Vista Hospital to enable continued access for psychiatric inpatient care for Nevada County clients.

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