



NEVADA COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
AGENCY

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: April 28, 2020

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Phebe Bell**

SUBJECT: Resolution approving execution of Amendment No. 1 to the renewal personal services contract with Stanford Youth Solutions (formerly Sierra Forever Families) for the provision of comprehensive Specialty Mental Health Services, primarily targeted to serve pre- and post-adoptive and guardianship children and their families to add an alternate payment mechanism for services provided March through June 2020 due to impacts of the Coronavirus and amend Exhibit "B" Schedule of Charges and Payments, to reflect the alternate payment mechanism for the contract term of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. (RES. 19-304)

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: Multiple funding sources are braided together to support these key programs. Services are mainly funded by Medi-Cal Federal Financial Participation (FFP), 2011 Realignment funds and Mental Health Services ACT (MHSA) monies. Additionally, the contract is supported by PSSF (Promoting Safe and Stable Families) annual allocation monies. There will be a short-term cash flow issue that is within the capacity of the Behavioral Health department. The department expects minimal long-term fiscal impacts. There is no budget amendment and no general fund dollars required.

BACKGROUND:

Sierra Forever Families (SFF) and Stanford Youth Solutions (SYS) announce the merging of the two organizations, effective July 1, 2019. Per Resolution No. 19-304, the Board of Supervisors approved a renewal contract with Sierra Forever Families to provide comprehensive specialized mental health and rehabilitation services for children and youth. The primary target population is pre- and post-adoptive and guardianship children and families. The service area includes both

Eastern and Western Nevada County. Services focus on issues related to trauma and permanency for those children who have been removed from birth families.

There are 7 total contracts that are separately being brought to the Board with a similar amendment and the following language applies to all 7 contracts. The Coronavirus pandemic has had significant impacts across all critical service providers, including disruption of their normal ability to serve clients. Because these providers are paid based on units of service they provide, the inability to provide as many services has led to lower generation of revenue and therefore cash flow and budget challenges. At the same time as their fiscal viability is being challenged, their services are needed more than ever. Behavioral Health staff has worked closely with all service providers to help navigate this pandemic and has provided support in modifying their processes and protocols so that staff can remain safe and community members can safely get the care they need. Moving forward, staff will work with providers to increase productivity so that we can continue to maximize our ability to draw down federal funds. This proposed change in contract payment terms will allow the Contractor to stay fiscally stable and maintain current staffing levels so that they are able to provide all needed services during this difficult time.

This amendment allows the contractor to invoice for 1/12th of their contract amount for the period of March through June instead of billing based on services provided during this time. The expectation is that contracts will be amended back to units of service once the pandemic is behind us. The change in methodology will likely have some cash flow impacts to Behavioral Health. It is estimated the cash flow impact will be approximately \$500,000 total for 4 months for all 7 contracts combined, however, we expect to capture most of the reduced dollars in the cost settlement process with both the Contractors and the State, which will restore fund balance. These Amendments will not impact the General Fund and the Behavioral Health fund balances are sufficient to support the short-term impact. In addition, the Contracts are still capped at the maximum dollar amount and should the Contractor not have expenditures to support the amount received through June 2020, they will be required to repay the County.

It is recommended that the Board approve this Amendment No. 1 as it allows the contractor to maintain critically needed existing services and sustain current staff during this challenging time.

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