



NEVADA COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
AGENCY

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(Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Program)

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: August 25, 2020
TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: **Phebe Bell**
SUBJECT: Resolution approving execution of Amendment No. 3 to the Personal Services Contract with Auburn Counseling Services, Inc., d/b/a Communicare to increase the maximum Contract Amount to \$1,273,919 (an increase of \$35,775), revising Exhibit “A” to add an additional 0.25 FTE care coordinator position and revising Exhibit “B” Schedule of Charges and Payments to reflect the increase in the maximum Contract Price.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: This Agreement is funded by Medi-Cal reimbursement, Realignment, MHSA (Mental Health Services Act), HRSA Rural Health Opioid Program Grant funds, Medication Assisted Treatment in Jails Grant and funds received from revenue contracts with the County of Placer, County of El Dorado and County of Plumas for the regional telephone triage and telephone answering services components. There are no county general fund dollars required in the Agreement.

BACKGROUND: The Board of Supervisors approved this renewal contract with Auburn Counseling Services, Inc., d/b/a Communicare on June 25, 2019 per Resolution No. 19-4710. Further, this Agreement was first amended on October 22, 2019, per Resolution 19-560, to add services for Plumas and Sierra Counties and was second amended on December 17, 2019, per Resolution 19-613.

Under this Agreement, the Contractor provides phone triage services (both crisis and access calls) and patients’ rights and quality assurance services on behalf of the Nevada County Behavioral

Health Department (NCBH). Contractor answers all crisis line telephone calls, along with occasional business and other clinically-related calls. Crisis Phone Triage Services are provided 24 hours per day. Crisis Triage Staff evaluates each call and provides information, consultation services, and assesses if the call is an emergency and should be forwarded to the Crisis Team.

Access Phone Triage is provided after hours, on holidays and when County staff is not available to take such calls. Access calls are assessed to determine if the call is a request for possible services, as compared to a general business call, crisis call, or other clinical calls from an open client. The Contractor also provides case management, plan development, collateral and rehabilitation mental health services (as defined by California Code of Regulation, Title 9), as well as adult education classes for County clients in the New Directions Behavioral Health Program.

The amendment before you today will add an additional 0.25 FTE care coordinator and flex funds by increasing the maximum Contract Amount to \$1,273,919 (an increase of \$35,775). Care Coordination services and flex funds for individuals with SUD needs and co-occurring mental health and physical health issues are linked to improved outcomes for clients.

It is recommended that the Board approve the resolution amending the renewal agreement as this contract serves the needs of Nevada County residents experiencing a mental health crisis, but also allows us to collaborate with neighboring counties, lowering our costs and improving services for the region.

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