



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

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

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

**Behavioral Health Medical Director:**  
***Aubrey Eubanks, M.D.***

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

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**NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**Board Agenda Memo**

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**MEETING DATE:** February 7, 2023

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Phebe Bell

**SUBJECT:** Resolution approving execution of a Single Data Sharing Agreement with California Health and Human Services to facilitate data exchange in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and policies and set forth a common set of terms, conditions, and obligations to support secure real-time access to, or exchange of, Health and Social Services Information between and among the Participants for the beginning January 31, 2023 and continuing until terminated by either party.

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the attached Resolution.

**FUNDING:** This Agreement has no direct financial costs associated with it. There will be no direct cost to the County and no General Fund impact from this agreement. The department is mandated to sign this agreement.

**BACKGROUND:** Under the auspices of CalAIM, a state-wide initiative to improve the Medi-Cal system, the California Health and Human Services Agency is investing heavily in improved capacity for data sharing. The goal is for all types of providers in the health care system, including behavioral health providers, to be able to share information about clients so that the systems can work collaboratively to improve health outcomes.

A critical element of this new focus on sharing data is the Data Exchange Framework which is a set of agreements that will guide both the ethics and mechanics of data sharing across the state. This new framework does not create new technology or a central infrastructure for managing all data exchange. Its intent is to create a flexible, secure environment for providers to develop their own approaches to seamlessly sharing information with California residents and each other to empower patients and improve their health.

Most providers of health care services are required to sign the Data Exchange Framework, including hospitals, primary care providers and managed care plans. The Behavioral Health Department is required to sign the Agreement if we wish to receive incentive funding under the Behavioral Health Quality Improvement Plan. Signing this Agreement does not commit the Department to specific data sharing activities, but rather allows us to participate in sharing data with other elements of the health care delivery system in accordance with mutually agreed upon parameters. The Agreement sets forth a common set of terms, conditions and obligations to support secure, real-time access to, or exchange of, health and social services information between and among the participants.

It is recommended that the Board approve this Resolution authorizing the Behavioral Health Director to sign the CalHHS Data Sharing Agreement as it allows the Nevada County Behavioral Health Department to participate in the sharing of data with other health care providers in a manner that is consistent with newly developed state expectations in order to improve health outcomes for our clients.

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