



NEVADA COUNTY

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: September 27, 2016
TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Michael Ertola
Probation Department

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the execution of Amendment No. 1 to the Personal Services Contract with Northwest Professional Consortium, Inc. (NPC Research) to extend the contract termination date from September 30, 2016 to December 31, 2016, for the provision of evaluation services, policy analysis, research and training pertaining to collaborative criminal courts and treatment practices.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the Resolution

FUNDING: This contract in the amount of \$32,000 is 100% funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA) Grant for Expansion of Existing Specialty Courts (Board Resolution #15-211). No general funds are required.

BACKGROUND: In 2013, Nevada County Probation Department received a three year, \$900,000 grant for the expansion of our existing DUI Court. The department has since extended the grant to include the expansion of all specialty courts including Adult Drug Court. In 2014, with the passage of Proposition 47, the number of clients in the DUI Court dwindled and has not risen within the guidelines originally proposed. The Probation Department also noted a loss in traction in all of the specialty Courts Nevada County offers due to the passage of the proposition which reduced some felonies to misdemeanors. In those cases, the Courts are unable to rely on the threat of imposing prison and jail sentences to motivate clients toward treatment. However, since Realignment in 2011, Nevada County Probation Department has committed to evidence based practices. In early 2015, the Adult Drug Court Program placed probation in charge of supervision and case management. In order to align the Adult Drug Court Program with existing evidence based programs, probation along with other involved stakeholders, intends to contract with an outside vendor to provide a complete evaluation of all facets of Drug Court.

NPC Research conducted an evaluation of the Adult Drug Court program during the month of June 2016. The evaluation activities included administration of an online assessment of Adult Drug Court practices, a site visit to the Drug Court to observe staff meetings and court sessions, a focus group with Adult Drug Court participants, interviews in person and by telephone with the Drug Court team members and other staff and facilitated discussions of the process evaluation findings including recommendations with the drug court team. NPC submitted a written evaluation and recommendations of the Adult Drug Court to the Chief Probation Officer and key members of the Adult Drug Court team on August 28, 2016. The recommendations of NPC will be discussed by the Drug Court steering committee and the next scheduled meeting and implementation will be started immediately.

This amendment to extend the duration of the contract supports the mission of the Nevada County Community Corrections Partnership which is to utilize best practices to support criminal offenders' achievement of successful reintegration back into their families and communities.

Item Initiated by: Angelina Coffey, Administrative Services Associate
Approved by: Michael Ertola, Chief Probation Officer

Submittal Date: 9/9/2016
Revision Date: