



**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:** June 23, 2020  
**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** **Phebe Bell**  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution approving execution of a renewal Professional Services Agreement with Granite Wellness Centers (formerly Community Recovery Resources) for the provision of services related to serving Nevada County clients with Co-Occurring Disorders (COD) in the maximum amount of \$89,059 for the contract term of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the attached Resolution.

**FUNDING:** Services will be funded by Medi-Cal reimbursement and SB 837 Community-Based Transitional Housing Program monies made available to the department. Services are included in the F/Y 2020-21 Department budget and there are no county general fund dollars required in this Agreement.

**BACKGROUND:** Often we find that individuals seen for substance use disorder have been trying to self-medicate the symptoms of a mental or physical complaint. Granite Wellness Centers provides services to adult individuals who have both a mental illness and a substance use disorder (Co-Occurring Disorder) under their comprehensive treatment program called the Co-Occurring Disorders or COD Program. Although Nevada County Behavioral Health will make all direct referrals for treatment, referrals for the program may originate from the Courts, CalWORKs, or self-referrals.

Under this Agreement, services will include integrated mental health and substance abuse treatment, case management, and ancillary services such as anger management, job skills training, parenting and life skills which are provided according to the individual client's needs. The

Contractor will treat persons who have a moderate to severe substance abuse problem co-occurring with moderate mental health problem(s) which meet Medi-Cal medical necessity, diagnostic and other criteria for Medi-Cal specialty mental health services.

Psychotherapy will be provided to individuals based on an assessment and needs of the individual. Psychotherapy will provide support for the overall program and to assist the client in making functional improvements and sustainable changes in their life. Psychotherapy may continue beyond the substance abuse treatment.

It is widely recognized that people with co-occurring substance use and mental disorders are a large and significantly underserved population. The economic ramifications of the Coronavirus pandemic are significantly impacting major funding sources relied on by the department. Behavioral Health is monitoring the situation closely and is actively involved in advocacy efforts through the County Behavioral Health Directors Association (CBHDA) to ensure reasonable funding for county services. Additionally, the department has reviewed the 20-21 budget carefully and areas for reduction have been identified to reduce the pressure on existing funding sources. At the same time, demand for behavioral health services is likely to increase over coming months due to both the economic stress and social isolation of this time, as well as due to increasing numbers of Medi-Cal beneficiaries in our county. The department is proposing to move forward with critical contracts at levels similar to what was originally budgeted, but with the understanding that midyear reductions may be necessary if revenues continue to decline. Behavioral Health staff are in close communication with all contractors and have provided support to them around modifying their processes and protocols so that staff can remain safe and community members can safely get the care they need. Staff are also working closely with providers to increase productivity so that we can continue to maximize our ability to draw down federal funds. Providers are aware that midyear cuts may be needed if the economic situation worsens. Additional analysis and review will be done as needed throughout the year. This contract does not rely on general funds and Behavioral Health's current anticipated revenues along with fund balances are sufficient to support this contract at this time. It is recommended that the board approve this renewal agreement as it provides a cohesive, comprehensive approach to effectively treat dual diagnosis clients.

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