



NEVADA COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
AGENCY

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: February 28, 2023

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Phebe Bell

SUBJECT: Resolution approving execution of Amendment No. 1 to the contract with Shellee Ann Sepko, LMFT, d/b/a What's Up? Wellness Checkups, for the Spectrum Project to provide LGBTQ+ youth and staff support in eastern and western Nevada County, to increase contract price from \$47,613 to \$77,126 (an increase of \$29,513) and revising Exhibit "B", Schedule of Charges and Payments for the contract term of September 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. (PESQ4605)

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: Contract services are funded by MHSA (Mental Health Services Act) Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) dollars. PEI funding is intended to support strategies to help identify and increase prevention efforts and responses to early signs of emotional and behavioral health problems among specific at-risk populations. These services are included in the Department's FY 2022/23 budget and there are no county general fund dollars required in the agreement.

BACKGROUND: Teen Screen Schools and Communities is a national mental health and suicide risk screening program developed by Columbia University's Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in response to research revealing that 90 percent of youth who die by suicide suffer from a diagnosable mental illness and that 64 percent experience symptoms for at least a year prior to their deaths.

The Contractor, Shellee Ann Sepko, LMFT, d/b/a What's Up? Wellness Checkups, implements the Teen Screen model to make voluntary mental health checkups available to all of Nevada County's ninth graders in the Nevada Joint Union High School District and the Tahoe Truckee

Unified School District, in addition to Nevada County charter schools and other grades of students upon consideration of program capacity.

The Contractor has established a Project Team to coordinate efforts to offer screening in participating Nevada County schools. In addition, the Contractor makes available translation/interpretation services to create opportunities for outreach in the Hispanic communities in Grass Valley and Truckee on an as-needed basis and provide Group Facilitation services for on-campus prevention groups including recruitment, coordinating services through student assistance programs, facilitating groups and evaluation of group effectiveness. The program is completely voluntary, and parental consent and youth assent are required for participation in the program.

Per Purchasing Contract No. PESQ4605, the contractor, Shellee Ann Sepko, LMFT, d/b/a What's Up? Wellness Checkups (WUWC), partnered with The Spectrum Project as part of the WUWC Project Team to provide LGBTQ+ youth mental health screenings and support for both youth and staff. This contract was approved on October 18, 2022 in the amount not to exceed \$47,613. A contract amendment is needed to increase the contract price from \$47,613 to \$77,126 (an increase of \$29,513) in order to fully fund provision of the activities outlined in the scope of services for the Spectrum Project through the end of the fiscal 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 Amendment as it provides services that can intervene with at-risk youth and connect them with the mental health services that can help save lives.

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