

**CONTRACT BETWEEN COUNTY OF NEVADA AND
NORTH VALLEY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH LLC
FOR FISCAL YEARS 2018/19 THROUGH 2019/20**

This Agreement is made and entered into as of this 1st day of July, 2018, by and between the COUNTY OF NEVADA, a political subdivision of the State of California, hereinafter referred to as "COUNTY," and NORTH VALLEY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH LLC, a limited liability company doing business as NORTH VALLEY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, hereinafter referred to as "CONTRACTOR."

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, COUNTY desires to enter into an Agreement whereby CONTRACTOR will provide mental health services in accordance with the requirements of Title 9, California Administrative Code; and

WHEREAS, the California Welfare and Institutions Code (Section 5600 et seq.) provides a set of definitions, standards, procedures and regulations by and pursuant to which COUNTY and CONTRACTOR may lawfully contract for such services; and

WHEREAS, CONTRACTOR provides acute psychiatric services in a 16-bed licensed Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF), located at 1535 Plumas Court, Yuba City, CA.

WHEREAS, said PHF is Medi-Cal certified; and

WHEREAS, the Nevada County Mental Health Plan desires services of an acute inpatient PHF; and

WHEREAS, CONTRACTOR is willing to furnish such services as a Provider upon the terms hereafter set forth.

IT IS HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED

FEE FOR SERVICE ACCESS:

CONTRACTOR will provide COUNTY access to bed space on a first come, first serve "Fee for Service" basis. COUNTY agrees to pay the all-inclusive "fee for service" daily rate from the day of admission to the day of discharge. County's primary facility of placement will be at Contractor's Psychiatric Health Facility in Yuba City (North Valley Behavioral Health).

COUNTY is eligible to receive Medi-Cal reimbursement from the State of California, Department of Mental Health for these bed days. COUNTY may place either male or female patients at CONTRACTOR's psychiatric health facilities (PHF).

The County Mental Health Managed Care Plan will determine the appropriateness of placement based on clinical medical necessity criteria. CONTRACTOR will make every reasonable effort to arrange its occupied bed days to permit COUNTY to place a patient at any time in accordance with agreed upon admission criteria.

2. CONTRACT TERMS

This Contract is for a term commencing on July 1, 2018, and ending on June 30, 2020, unless earlier terminated as provided under paragraph 19 of this agreement.

In the event this Agreement is terminated prior to the ending date above, CONTRACTOR shall be paid based on a prorated amount of COUNTY's pre-purchased bed days up to the date of termination.

In the event of client neglect or abuse, COUNTY reserves the right to terminate this Agreement effective immediately.

In the event there is a change in State law or regulation regarding the funding mechanism for any of the services provided by CONTRACTOR, the terms of this Agreement shall be immediately subject to renegotiation, up to and including termination of this Agreement.

In the event that any COUNTY department wishes to terminate this Agreement, all applicable COUNTY departments herewith associated shall be notified immediately.

In the event of renegotiation of the Agreement, CONTRACTOR shall be paid based on a prorated amount of the pre-purchased bed days up to the date of an executed revised contract.

3. PAYMENT

FEE FOR SERVICE ACCESS to North Valley Behavioral Health located in Yuba City: COUNTY agrees to pay at the all-inclusive rate of Eight Hundred and Seventy-Five Dollars (\$875.00) per day for indigent and Medi-Cal patients. The daily rate for Administrative Days is also Eight Hundred and Seventy-Five Dollars (\$875). CONTRACTOR shall submit bi-weekly to COUNTY, an invoice and supporting documentation as required by County.

COUNTY shall pay CONTRACTOR at the established provisional rate within (30) days following the submission of the invoice and all supporting documentation as required by COUNTY.

NOTICE OF NEW RATES shall be given by CONTRACTOR to COUNTY, 30 days in advance.

CONTRACT MAXIMUM:

THE MAXIMUM OBLIGATION OF THIS AGREEMENT SHALL NOT EXCEED SIX HUNDRED SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$660,000) PER FISCAL YEAR FOR A TOTAL CONTRACT MAXIMUM OF ONE MILLION THREE HUNDRED TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,320,000) FOR THE CONTRACT TERM OF JULY 1, 2018 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2020.

CONTRACTOR shall be liable for DMH audit exceptions due to inadequate documentation as per medical necessity documentation requirements and not actual medical necessity and shall reimburse COUNTY for any recoupments ordered by the State within sixty (60) days of the date of the State's or COUNTY's notice of recoupment order. If CONTRACTOR fails to reimburse the COUNTY within the time period, the COUNTY may offset the unpaid amount

against any sums due from COUNTY to CONTRACTOR pursuant to this Agreement or any other agreement or obligation.

COUNTY shall be liable for DMH audit exceptions should the patient not meet medical necessity criteria for continued stay but the county requests additional days. This may occur in instances when transportation or placement, etc. is not available for the patient and the Contractor's clinical team determines the patient is ready for discharge.

Within ninety (90) days after the close of the fiscal year, CONTRACTOR shall provide COUNTY with an annual Cost Report in the appropriate format for submission to the State of California, Department of Mental Health for Medi-Cal reimbursement. This Cost Report will establish the final basis upon which CONTRACTOR will be paid for services provided during the term of this Agreement.

4. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS

CONTRACTOR understands and agrees that the services performed hereunder by its officers, agents, employees or contracting persons or entities are performed in an independent capacity and not in the capacity of officers, agents or employees of COUNTY. All personnel, supplies, equipment, furniture, quarters and operating expenses of any kind required for the performance of this Contract shall be provided by CONTRACTOR in performance of contracted services. CONTRACTOR is not entitled to participate in worker's compensation benefits, pension plan, retirement plan, insurance, bonus or similar benefits COUNTY provides its employees.

5. HOLD HARMLESS & INDEMNIFICATION

COUNTY has relied upon the professional ability and training of CONTRACTOR as a material inducement to enter into this Agreement. CONTRACTOR hereby warrants that all work will be performed in accordance with generally accepted professional practices and standards, as well as the requirements of applicable federal, state and local laws, it being understood that acceptance of CONTRACTOR'S work by COUNTY shall not operate as a waiver or release.

CONTRACTOR shall indemnify, hold harmless, defend and release COUNTY, its agents, and employees from and against any and all actions, claims, damages, disabilities or expenses, including attorneys fees and witness costs that may be asserted by any person or entity, including CONTRACTOR, arising out of or in connection with the activities necessary to perform the services and complete the tasks provided for in this Agreement, but excluding liabilities due to the sole negligence or willful misconduct of COUNTY. This indemnification obligation is not limited in any way by any limitation on the amount or type of damages or compensation payable by or for the CONTRACTOR or its agents under Worker's Compensation Acts, disability benefit acts or other employee benefit acts.

CONTRACTOR may not subcontract all or part of this Agreement except for temporary arrangements entered into for coverage during temporary absences due to illness or vacation. Prior approval of the Plan is not required in temporary absences.

COUNTY shall indemnify, hold harmless, defend and release Contractor, its agents, and employees from and against any and all actions, claims, damages, disabilities or expenses,

including attorneys fees and witness costs that maybe asserted by any person or entity, including COUNTY, arising out of or in connection with the activities necessary to perform the services and complete the tasks provided for in this Agreement, but excluding liabilities due to the sole negligence or willful misconduct of CONTRACTOR. This indemnification obligation is not limited in any way by any limitation on the amount or type of damages or compensation payable by or for the COUNTY or its agents under Worker's Compensation Acts, disability benefit acts or other employee benefit acts.

6. HIPAA COMPLIANCE

CONTRACTOR agrees to comply with the applicable regulations for the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ("HIPAA") and The Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act of 2009 (HITECH) per 45CFR 160.103 as an independent covered entity and shall hold the County harmless from any sanctions received by the CONTRACTOR, to the extent permitted by law, for breach of these regulations. CONTRACTOR also agrees: patients to whom services are rendered are third-party beneficiaries of this section; to prohibit any unauthorized disclosures or use of protected information; to put in place appropriate safeguards ensuring only permitted uses and disclosures; to immediately report to COUNTY reports of any unauthorized uses or disclosures; ensure that sub-contractors of CONTRACTOR agree to the provisions of this section; to consent to patient access to their own health information; to make protected information available to the Federal Department of Health and Human Services as well as all internal compliance policies and procedures; to provide for the return of protected information to COUNTY or destruction of protected information upon contract termination unless it must be retained to comply with another provision of law; and to ensure appropriate correction or amendment of records. A failure by CONTRACTOR to adhere to these provisions shall result in contract termination. Contractor shall provide its Notice of Privacy Practices, most recent HIPPA Security Risk Assessment documentation and other HIPPA related policies and procedures to County upon request.

7. INSURANCE

CONTRACTOR, at its expense, shall secure and maintain at all times during the entire period of performance of this Agreement, insurance as set forth below with insurance companies acceptable to the COUNTY for COUNTY'S protection, its elected or appointed officials, employees, CONTRACTOR and subcontractor from any and all claims which may arise from operations under this Agreement, whether operations be by CONTRACTOR or by a subcontractor or by anyone directly or indirectly employed by either of them.

CONTRACTOR shall provide to COUNTY certificates of insurance with endorsements properly executed by an officer of the issuing insurance company evidencing coverage as specified below.

In the event of breach of any provision of this Section, or in the event any notice is received which indicates any required insurance coverage will be diminished or canceled, COUNTY, at its option, may, notwithstanding any other provisions of this Agreement to the contrary, immediately declare a material breach of this Agreement and suspend further work pursuant to this Agreement.

CONTRACTOR shall not commence work, nor shall they allow their employees or subcontractors or anyone to commence work contemplated through this Agreement until all insurance required hereunder has been submitted to and accepted by COUNTY. Failure to submit proof of insurance as required herein may result in awarding said Agreement to another bidder.

Insurance coverage in a minimum amount set forth herein shall not be construed to relieve CONTRACTOR for liability in excess of such coverage, nor shall it preclude COUNTY from taking such other action as is available to it under any other provisions of this Agreement or otherwise in law.

CONTRACTOR agrees to indemnify and hold harmless COUNTY, its elected or appointed officials, employees or volunteers against any claims, actions, or demands against them, or any of them, and against any damages, liabilities or expenses, including costs of defense and attorneys' fees, for personal injury or death, or for the loss or damage to the property, or any or all of them, arising out of or in any way connected with the performance of this Agreement by CONTRACTOR.

CONTRACTOR affirms that they are aware of the provisions of Section 3700 of the California Labor Code which requires every employer to be insured against liability for the Workers' Compensation or to undertake self insurance in accordance with the provisions of the Code and CONTRACTOR further assures that s/he will comply with such provisions before commencing the performance of work under this Agreement.

CONTRACTOR shall furnish to COUNTY certificate(s) of insurance evidencing malpractice insurance coverage for CONTRACTOR and its employee(s) in an amount no less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) in a form acceptable to COUNTY.

CONTRACTOR shall furnish to COUNTY certificate(s) of insurance evidencing Worker's Compensation Insurance coverage to cover its employees, and CONTRACTOR shall require all subcontractors similarly to provide Workers' Compensation Insurance as required by the Labor Code of the State of California for all of CONTRACTOR'S and subcontractors' employees.

CONTRACTOR shall furnish to COUNTY certificates of insurance with Automobile Liability and Commercial General Liability Endorsements evidencing at a minimum the following:

- a. Commercial General Liability - Combined single limit bodily injury liability and property damage liability – One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) each occurrence.
- b. Automobile Liability - Vehicle / Bodily Injury combined single limit vehicle bodily injury and property damage liability – ONE MILLION Dollars (\$1,000,000) each occurrence. (Clause is void if CONTRACTOR shall not be required to transport individuals or travel while performing services as outlined in this agreement. Existing vehicle liability shall be submitted in lieu of the above for COUNTY records.)

Each certificate of insurance specified above (with the exception of Workers' Compensation Insurance) shall be accompanied by an endorsement, properly executed by an officer of the issuing insurance company stating:

- a. The County is named and listed as an additional insured.
- b. Stipulation that the policy acts as primary insurance for the COUNTY and no other

insurance held or owned by COUNTY shall be called upon to cover a loss under said policy.

- c. Restatement of limits of policy
- d. Contain a non-severability of interest statement.
- e. Stipulation that failure to comply with the reporting procedures of policy shall not affect coverage provided to COUNTY.
- f. Stipulation that the County will be notified by first class mail in the event that the remaining amount of coverage of the policy falls below the minimum requirements of the County.
- g. Stipulation that the County will be notified by first class mail a minimum of thirty (30) days before the policy is canceled, altered, or not renewed.

8. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND ORDINANCES

All services to be performed by CONTRACTOR pursuant to this Agreement shall be performed in accordance with all applicable federal, state, county and municipal laws, ordinances, regulations and titles, including but not limited to the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005, the Federal and State False Claims Acts. Any change in status, licensure, or ability to perform activities within the Scope of Work must be reported to the COUNTY immediately.

Upon discharge of a Nevada County resident from NVBH, chart notes will be reviewed by the TCBHS Medical Director. This Quality Assurance activity is mandated by the Department of Health Care Services and complies with the Policy and Procedure #2201 of TCBHS. Upon the review of the chart notes, inpatient days where demonstrated medical necessity does not exist and there is no administrative reason present for payment, these days of non-demonstrated medical necessity will be disallowed.

Contractor shall have a process in place to verify that Providers of Medi-Cal services are not on the Office of Inspector General (OIG) Exclusion List and Medi-Cal List of Suspended or Ineligible Providers. (NOTE: Federal health care programs under CFR, title 42, section 1128 or section 1128A of the Social Security Act or CFR, Title 42, section 438.214.) Contractors will monitor their staff monthly, using the OIG Exclusion List and Medi-Cal List of Suspended or Ineligible Providers, and will provide the County with their monthly reports on a quarterly basis.

9. DIRECTION, SUPERVISION, MONITORING, REVIEW AND TRAINING

Pursuant to WIC Section 5608, services hereunder shall be provided by CONTRACTOR under the general supervision of the County Director of Mental Health, or her authorized designee, hereinafter referred to as "DIRECTOR." DIRECTOR shall have the right to supervise, monitor and specify the kind, quality, appropriateness, timeliness and amount of the services and the criteria for determining the persons to be served. CONTRACTOR agrees to extend to DIRECTOR and to the State Department of Mental Health, the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the Comptroller General of the United States and other authorized state agencies or their duly authorized representatives, the right to review, monitor and evaluate CONTRACTOR'S facilities, programs, books, records or procedures at any reasonable time.

10. ASSIGNMENTS

CONTRACTOR may not assign any of its rights or delegate any of its duties under this Agreement, without the prior written consent of COUNTY. This limitation, however, does not apply to CONTRACTOR'S delegation of duties to its employees and independent contractors in the ordinary course of CONTRACTOR'S business, when CONTRACTOR retains direct supervision over the work of such employees and primary responsibility under this Agreement for the work of any independent contractors.

11. PERSONNEL

- a. CONTRACTOR shall furnish such qualified professional personnel as prescribed by Title 9 of the California Administrative Code for the type of services described in Program Description attached.
- b. CONTRACTOR'S personnel shall have the appropriate State licensure for their given profession. CONTRACTOR shall provide copies of current licensure for all clinical staff to COUNTY within thirty (30) days of execution of this Agreement or date of employment/renewal.
- c. CONTRACTOR shall comply with all applicable federal, state laws, rules and regulations including but not limited to non-discrimination in employment because of race, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, sexual preference, age, medical condition or handicap, (including compliance with the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504).

12. AVAILABILITY OF SERVICES

Services under this Agreement shall be rendered without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, handicap, sex, age, marital status, sexual preference, national origin or ancestry.

13. LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

CONTRACTOR shall comply with all necessary county or state licensing requirements and must obtain appropriate licenses and display same in a location that is reasonably conspicuous. CONTRACTOR shall abide by the Short-Doyle Act (Welfare and Institutions Code, Division 5, Part II, Section 5600 et seq.), Title 9, and Title 22 of the California Administrative Code, the State Cost Reporting/Data Collection Manual (CR/DC) and State Department of Mental Health Policy Letters.

CONTRACTOR shall furnish COUNTY within thirty (30) days of execution of this Agreement:

- a. A Program Schedule
- b. Treatment Staff Roster (including license number or evidence of credentialing).

14. AGREEMENT PREPARATION

It is agreed and understood by the parties hereto that this Agreement has been arrived at

through negotiation and that neither party is to be deemed the party which prepared this Agreement within the meaning of Civil Code Section 1654.

15. CONFIDENTIALITY

All information and records obtained in the course of providing services under this Agreement shall be confidential pursuant to Section 5328 of the Welfare and Institutions Code in accordance with applicable state and federal law.

16. CLINICAL RECORDS

CONTRACTOR shall maintain adequate records. Patient records must comply with all appropriate state and federal requirements. Individual records shall contain intake information, interviews and progress notes. Program records shall contain details adequate for the evaluation of the service.

CONTRACTOR shall provide COUNTY with required records for billing purposes, utilization review, and other purposes as may be required under terms of this Agreement in a timely manner.

CONTRACTOR is hereby informed that COUNTY payment may be delayed for lack of appropriate records and/or contents of those records required from CONTRACTOR in order to bill under Medi-Cal guidelines.

17. QUALITY ASSURANCE

CONTRACTOR shall notify COUNTY of any and all special incidents involving a County placement within 24 hours of the incident. All special incidents are reviewed by the County Mental Health Department's Quality Improvement Committee and any recommendations will be forwarded both to the County Mental Health Director and the CONTRACTOR'S Chief Executive Officer.

CONTRACTOR shall furnish COUNTY with a copy of its Quality Assurance Policies and Procedures and its Client Complaint/Grievance Procedure within thirty (30) days of execution of this Agreement.

18. FINANCIAL RECORDS

CONTRACTOR shall maintain financial records that clearly reflect the cost of services. Appropriate service and financial records must be maintained and retained for four (4) years following the close of the fiscal year to which the records pertain.

19. TERMINATION

Either party may terminate this Agreement without cause, upon sixty (60) days written notice served upon the other party.

Without limiting the termination rights set forth above:

- a. COUNTY declares its intent to terminate this Agreement should any state or federal agency withhold or terminate funding which COUNTY had anticipated using for payment for CONTRACTOR'S services.
- b. COUNTY declares its interest in providing the mental health services described in this contract and therefore agrees to act in good faith and provide written notification to CONTRACTOR in advance of terminating this Agreement with the intent of allowing CONTRACTOR to rectify any problems that would serve to prompt COUNTY's termination of this Agreement.

If CONTRACTOR should fail to perform any of its obligations hereunder, within the time and in the manner herein provided, or otherwise violate any of the terms of this Agreement, COUNTY may terminate this Agreement by giving CONTRACTOR written notice of such termination, stating the reason for such termination. In such event, CONTRACTOR shall be entitled to receive as full payment for all services satisfactorily rendered and expenses incurred hereunder, an amount which bears the same ratio to the total fees specified in the Agreement as the services satisfactorily rendered hereunder by CONTRACTOR bear to the total services otherwise required to be performed for such total fee; provided, however, that there shall be deducted from such amount the amount of damage, if any, sustained by COUNTY by virtue of the breach of the Agreement by the CONTRACTOR.

CONTRACTOR agrees to permit COUNTY, and any state agency authorized by COUNTY'S Mental Health Director, to inspect, review and copy all records, notes and writing of any kind in connection with the services provided by CONTRACTOR under this Agreement. All such inspections and copying shall occur during normal business hours.

20. NOTICES. METHOD AND PLACE OF GIVING NOTICE, SUBMITTING BILLS AND MAKING PAYMENTS.

All notices, bills and payment shall be made in writing and may be given by personal delivery or mail. Notices, bills and payments sent by mail should be addressed as follows:

THE COUNTY
NEVADA COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
c/o Phebe Bell,
500 Crown Point Circle, Suite 120
Grass Valley, CA 95945

THE CONTRACTOR
NORTH VALLEY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
c/o Arne Hyson, Administrator
1535 Plumas Court
Yuba City, CA 95991

And when addressed, shall be deemed given upon deposit in the United States mail, postage prepaid. In all other instances, notices, bills and payments shall be deemed given at the time of actual delivery. Changes may be made in the name and addresses of the person to whom notices, bills, and payments are to be given by giving notice pursuant to this paragraph.

21. CHANGE ORDERS

Amendments or changes to this Agreement may be authorized by the Board of Supervisors or by the Mental Health Director on behalf of COUNTY. The parties expressly recognize that COUNTY personnel other than the Mental Health Director are without authorization to either

order additional (and/or changed) services or waive contract requirements. Failure of the CONTRACTOR to secure Board or Mental Health Director authorization for additional services shall constitute a waiver of any and all right to adjustment in additional compensation.

CONTRACTOR further expressly waives any and all right or remedy by way of restitution and quantum merit for any and all extra work performed by CONTRACTOR without the express and prior written authorization of the Board of Supervisors or Mental Health Director.

22. TAXES

CONTRACTOR agrees to file federal and state tax returns and pay all applicable state and federal taxes on amounts paid pursuant to this Agreement. In case COUNTY is audited for compliance regarding withholding or other applicable taxes, CONTRACTOR agrees to furnish COUNTY with proof of payment of taxes on those earnings.

23. DAMAGES

The parties agree that in the event either party brings an action or proceeding for damages arising out of the other's performance under this Agreement or to establish the right or remedy of either party, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover reasonable attorney's fees and costs as part of such action or proceedings.

24. PATIENTS RIGHTS

CONTRACTOR shall give the patients notice of their rights pursuant to and in compliance with: California Welfare and Institutions Code 5323; California Administrative Code, Title 9, Chapter 1, Sub chapter 4, Article 6. In addition, in all facilities providing the services described herein the CONTRACTOR shall have prominently posted in the predominant languages of the community a list of the patients' rights.

CONTRACTOR shall respond to any inquiries from the County Patients Rights Advocate in accordance with COUNTY policy and State Statutes, including State Fair Hearings, as requested.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

AS RECOMMENDED BY:

COUNTY OF NEVADA

CONTRACTOR

Phebe Bell, MSW
Interim Behavioral Health Director

Dated: _____



Arne Hyson, Administrator
North Valley Behavioral Health

Dated: 5/2/18

Honorable Edward Scofield
Chair, Board of Supervisors

Dated: _____

Attest:

Julie Patterson-Hunter
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

County Counsel



North Valley Behavioral Health

1535 Plumas Ct., Ste. A, Yuba City, CA 95991
Phone (530) 790-2520 • Fax (530) 790-2528 • Lic. # 02016037

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION:

In response to the increasing demand by mental health consumers and their advocates for client-centered, accessible, comprehensive, quality and affordable inpatient psychiatric services in Northern California, North Valley Behavioral Health was opened to provide a new program in Yuba City, California to meet those needs. The 16-bed facility is a non-hospital acute care program that is licensed by the California Department of Mental Health under the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 5. The program provides inpatient psychiatric emergency services to referred adults who require inpatient interventions to treat a psychiatric crisis or other acute mental health problems.

OVERVIEW:

North Valley Behavioral Health operates a multidisciplinary inpatient Psychiatric Health Facility in Yuba City, California. The program offered is patient-centered with a "Patient's First" philosophical base and guided by a multidisciplinary team that provides individualized pharmacological, therapeutic, and rehabilitative interventions in a safe and secure environment. Program services are provided by qualified and licensed staff in sufficient numbers to ensure the quality, safety, and therapeutic milieu of the facility. These services are available in a 24-hour care, non-hospital setting to referred adults who: 1) require intervention for psychiatric crisis/episode or other acute mental health problem, and 2) have physical health needs that can be met by an affiliated hospital or in an outpatient setting.

The focus of the program is prompt intervention, assessment and stabilization of the individual's psychiatric crisis/episode. The program admits voluntary and involuntary patients with a primary diagnosis of mental illness. For patients who have co-morbid diagnoses the program will coordinate appropriate services with the patient, the responsible party and the referring agency. Admission to the program provides the individual with care designed to help stabilize and maintain their mental health condition, and improve their functioning ability. This is provided through continuous diagnostic assessments of their mental health status, pharmacological intervention, individual and group therapy to provide education/training in crisis intervention, and transitional discharge planning.

The North Valley Behavioral Health's program accepts adult patients referred from County Mental Health Agencies who meet the admission criteria established by the program. All care provided by the facility is pre-authorized by the referring county mental health agency and subject to utilization review criteria for medical and service necessity.

Program Goals:

1. To provide high quality in-patient emergency psychiatric intervention services on a 24-hour basis to adults who require rapid stabilization of a psychiatric crisis and/or other acute mental health problem in a caring, affordable, and comprehensive manner.
2. To encourage and facilitate involvement of patients and their appropriate support persons in treatment programs to promote self-care and improve patient functioning abilities.
3. To provide effective continuity of care spanning the entire treatment process from preadmission to post-discharge.

Program Objectives:

1. To develop and implement treatment program components, methods, and delivery systems to provide professional and specialty mental health services.
2. To establish systems for continuous monitoring of quality of care, and adherence to regulatory and legal requirements.
3. To institute methods to develop and monitor utilization criteria to meet medical and service necessity.
4. To define and establish communication networks with consumers, referral sources and affiliated agencies to ensure effective continuity of care.
5. To recruit and retain experienced, caring, and qualified professional staff to provide program services and promote a therapeutic milieu.

DISCHARGE CRITERIA:

1. They no longer meet medical or service necessity criteria and/or they have successfully completed a treatment plan.
2. They no longer meet criteria for an involuntary hold.
3. They are determined to need a higher level of medical or psychiatric care. It is expected that all patients moving to a lower level of care (e.g. board and care, supervised living, etc.) would be returned to the county of origin for placement or other disposition.

North Valley Behavioral Health has established relationships with other providers to handle medical care, health emergencies, higher levels of psychiatric care and other referral needs.

Average Length of Stay:

North Valley Behavioral Health will accept both voluntary and involuntary patients who meet the admission criteria for the program. The length of stay at the facility is determined by the admitted patient's acute psychiatric needs.

Many of the referrals are admitted on an involuntary hold (5150), which is limited to 72 hours. These patients may receive treatment beyond that time frame if they meet continued medical necessity and they either (a) agree to be treated on a voluntary basis or (b) are mandated to continue treatment on an involuntary basis by the proper legal authority.

The average length of stay at the facility is between 7 to 10 days. Stays of less than seven (7) days or longer than ten (10) days are dependent on assessment of the patients' needs. All care provided, including discharge planning and aftercare is coordinated with the patient, the patient's responsible party and the patient's referring agency to ensure continuity of care, and appropriate discharge placement.

Program Services:

The program at North Valley Behavioral Health offers:

1. Intensive psychiatric care to intervene in a psychiatric crisis/episode or other acute mental health problem.
2. Stabilization and maintenance or improvement in the mental health condition and functioning ability of patients.
3. Coordinated care and referrals to other services.

These program services are offered through a multidisciplinary treatment approach that provides an extensive evaluation of the individual's treatment needs and includes pharmacotherapy, individual and group therapy. These structured services are offered to admitted individuals during the day and evening hours, seven (7) days per week, including:

1. Individual assessment of admitting condition.
2. Multidisciplinary evaluation and treatment planning.
3. Crisis Intervention
4. Medication Evaluation and Management
5. Health monitoring and treatment interventions as indicated
6. Individual and Group Therapy
7. Creation of Therapeutic Milieu
8. Rehabilitation Services
9. Therapeutic Activities
10. Social Work/Case Management
11. Discharge Planning/Aftercare Services.

Organizational Plan:

As a licensed Psychiatric Facility (PHF), North Valley Behavioral Health utilizes a professional staff model to organize its medical and other professional staff. Members of the professional staff provide psychiatric assessments, medication management, medical supervision and psychiatric treatment to patients under their care. All members of the professional staff meet the Short/Doyle Medi-Cal requirements for qualified mental health professionals. Additionally, a qualified Clinical Director supervises the overall quality of care and coordinates the professional staff's involvement in the program.

A qualified Administrator supervises the staff and manages the operation of the PHF. Other administrative/support staff includes medical record professionals, clerical staff, housekeepers, food service personnel, and maintenance/grounds staff.

The Administrator will be assisted by a Director of Patient Care to direct the nursing functions and supervise R.N.'s, LPT's, and Mental Health Workers providing coverage at the facility. These direct care staff have a minimum ratio of one staff member per four patients. Additional staff is provided as the acuity of the patients require.

Social Workers provide individual and group therapy, casework and discharge planning for the patients in the program. Recreational or Occupational Therapy staff provides structured activities and rehabilitation services as needed. On-going staff training is scheduled on a monthly basis to keep staff current on mental health issues and methods.

Multi-disciplinary professional consultation is utilized, when necessary to meet specific diagnostic and treatment needs of patients not provided by the in-house professional or program staff including primary care and specialty physicians, dentists, podiatrists, and other mental health professionals.

Facility:

This smoke free facility is a newly constructed 16-bed unit with ample, comfortable indoor and outside program space. The site is located in the community of Yuba City in Sutter County, California at 1541 Plumas Court. It is situated in close proximity to auxiliary and medical services and is readily accessible off of Highways 20 and 99. The space is approximately 6000 square feet and offers a comfortable, safe and secure environment for the patients. The facility is of modern design and houses eight semiprivate bedrooms with showers, a dining/lounging area, laundry facilities and programming space. It also includes administrative, staffing, and medical office spaces. Connected to the facility is a secure outdoor patio for activities and relaxation.