



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Program)

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## NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Memo

- MEETING DATE: March 12, 2019
- TO: Board of Supervisors
- FROM: Phebe Bell
- **SUBJECT:** Resolution approving execution of a Personal Services Contract with Aurora Behavioral Healthcare – Santa Rosa, LLC., for the provision 24-hour Locked Acute Inpatient Mental Health Services for residents of Nevada County who meet criteria for 5150 placement in the maximum amount of \$18,000 for the term of February 21, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

**<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>**: Approve the attached Resolution.

**<u>FUNDING</u>**: These services are mandated. The contract is supported by Behavioral Health's Managed Care Allocation funding and Realignment dollars. The contract is within the department's budget and there are no county general fund dollars required.

**BACKGROUND:** Under this Agreement, Aurora Behavioral Healthcare – Santa Rosa, LLC ("Aurora"), provides mental health and inpatient facility services to patients with mental health conditions for referred clients of Behavioral Health.

Aurora is a 95-bed locked Skilled Nursing Facility, Institution for Mental Disease (IMD), and Special Treatment Program (STP). Aurora serves adolescents and adults with a variety of psychiatric diagnoses, all of which represent severe, persistent mental illness and significant impairment in emotional, social and occupational functioning. Aurora provides:

- Screening, orientation, assessment, treatment planning, crisis intervention, consultation, education, individual therapy and group counseling.
- Treatment team led by a psychiatrist and often includes a licensed therapist, psychiatric nurse, activity/recreational therapist, clinical social worker, and mental health counselors

The County Behavioral Health Department first utilized Aurora's facility on a non-contract basis in February 2018 in response to the need for an emergency psychiatric placement of an adult patient after it was determined that no other contracted psychiatric facility beds were available. Subsequently, Behavioral Health and Aurora began working on a contract to allow payment for services rendered. Unfortunately, the process of completing the contract with Aurora, as a new provider of psychiatric services on behalf of the County, has taken longer than expected, resulting in the unusual situation of having to approve a contract that has a start date in Fiscal Year 17/18.

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve this Agreement to allow payment to Aurora for essential psychiatric in-patient services rendered.

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