

## NEVADA COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Program)

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## **NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**Board Agenda Memo** 

**MEETING DATE:** April 28, 2020

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

FROM: Phebe Bell

**SUBJECT:** Resolution approving execution of Amendment No. 1 to the renewal

personal services contract with Turning Point Community Programs, Inc. for the provision of Adult Assertive Community Treatment (AACT) Program Services as a component of the County's Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Community Services and Supports (CSS) Plan; Supported Independent Living Program Services; and Integrated Healthcare Services as part of the Integration Services Team (IST) to add an alternate payment mechanism for agricultural description.

(IST) to add an alternate payment mechanism for services provided March through June 2020 due to impacts of the Coronavirus and amend the Exhibit "B", Schedule of Charges and Payments to reflect the alternate payment mechanism for the contract term of July 1, 2019

through June 30, 2020. (RES.19-469)

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the attached Resolution.

**<u>FUNDING</u>**: Services are funded by Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) monies made available to Nevada County from the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), 1991 Realignment, Medi-Cal Federal Financial Participation (FFP), Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals (GBHI) through Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and Prop 47 funds. The maximum is based on the actual cost of grant programs and projected units of services anticipated to be delivered and associated

program expenses. There will be a short-term cash flow issue that is within the capacity of the Behavioral Health department. The department expects minimal long-term fiscal impacts. There is no budget amendment and no general fund dollars required.

<u>BACKGROUND</u>: Per Resolution No. 19-469, Turning Point Community Programs, Inc. provides Adult Assertive Community Treatment (AACT) Program Services as a Full-Service Partnership (FSP) and consistent with Nevada County's approved MHSA Community Services and Supports (CSS) Plan.

Under this Agreement, Turning Point Community Programs, Inc. will continue to provide Adult Assertive Community Treatment (AACT) Program Services as a Full-Service Partnership (FSP) and consistent with Nevada County's approved MHSA Community Services and Supports (CSS) Plan. The Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team model is a multi-disciplinary approach to providing community-based psychiatric treatment, assertive outreach, rehabilitation, and support services to individuals with serious mental illness who also have co-occurring problems or multiple hospitalizations. Contractor's Adult Assertive Community Treatment Team operates 24-hours, 365 days per year to provide flexible crisis intervention and wraparound services. The wraparound services are tailored to address each eligible participant's unique and changing needs. Services include: assessment, therapy, peer support, rehabilitation, housing assistance, job development skills/assistance, psychiatric services, medication support, outreach, and linkage to other community supports, substance abuse treatment, and assistance in supporting other health and life needs.

Also, the Contractor in conjunction with Nevada County Behavioral Health Staff, will continue to implement and monitor a specific treatment program for Medi-Cal beneficiaries living in a home leased by Contractor. The Contractor provides services related to an Independent Living Program, including staffing to support structured day and evening services available seven (7) days a week with rehabilitative mental health services, case management brokerage and night and weekend supervision. By continuing such program services the County serves a critical ongoing need of providing safe, supportive housing in the least restrictive environment for appropriate clients, brings clients back to their own community, and reduces the dependence on higher-cost residential facilities in other counties.

The vision of Nevada County Behavioral Health is to build and support healthy futures in which people with a serious mental illness (SMI) are able to achieve health, wellness, and recovery through the development of integrated health care services and identification of a person-centered health care home. To achieve this vision, health care, mental health, and substance use treatment providers, community partners, consumers, and family members have formed a consortium to develop the Integration Services Team (IST). Contractor will collaborate with County to choose specific, evidence-based trainings for delivery of integrated person-centered health care, to assist in the coordination of health services for clients.

As another continuing component of this Agreement, Contractor will provide project staffing who serve as members of the IST team along with members of other community organizations. Contract services include coordination of clients' services with other IST providers, including the hospitals, to track and oversee the progress of referrals, and oversee the function of the IST team on a daily basis regarding effective service delivery. The Personal Service Coordinators also link clients to the primary care services at Nevada County Behavioral Health Clinic and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), as well as, assist individuals to access substance use services and other needed resources in the community. The RN and Personal Service Coordinators will continue to assist clients to develop a wellness-based treatment plan that includes both physical and mental health issues to provide a strategy for identifying key health outcomes for each client. Each individual with an SMI who is served by IST will have access to a range of health services, supports, and resources to promote wellness, manage illnesses, and improve overall health outcomes.

There are 7 total contracts that are separately being brought to the Board with a similar amendment and the following language applies to all 7 contracts. The Coronavirus pandemic has had significant impacts across all critical service providers, including disruption of their normal ability to serve clients. Because these providers are paid based on units of service they provide, the inability to provide as many services has led to lower generation of revenue and therefore cash flow and budget challenges. At the same time as their fiscal viability is being challenged, their services are needed more than ever. Behavioral Health staff has worked closely with all service providers to help navigate this pandemic and has provided support in modifying their processes and protocols so that staff can remain safe and community members can safely get the care they need. Moving forward, staff will work with providers to increase productivity so that we can continue to maximize our ability to draw down federal funds. This proposed change in contract payment terms will allow the Contractor to stay fiscally stable and maintain current staffing levels so that they are able to provide all needed services during this difficult time.

This amendment allows the contractor to invoice for 1/12th of their contract amount for the period of March through June instead of billing based on services provided during this time. The expectation is that contracts will be amended back to units of service once the pandemic is behind us. The change in methodology will likely have some cash flow impacts to Behavioral Health. It is estimated the cash flow impact will be approximately \$500,000 total for 4 months for all 7 contracts combined, however, we expect to capture most of the reduced dollars in the cost settlement process with both the Contractors and the State, which will restore fund balance. These Amendments will not impact the General Fund and the Behavioral Health fund balances are sufficient to support the short-term impact. In addition, the Contracts are still capped at the maximum dollar amount and should the Contractor not have expenditures to support the amount received through June 2020, they will be required to repay the County.

It is recommended that the Board approve this Amendment No. 1 as it allows the contractor to maintain critically needed existing services and sustain current staff during this challenging time.

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