

June 27, 2023

Board of Supervisors  
County of Ventura  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

**SUBJECT: Approval of, and Authorization for the Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Director to Sign, Eleven (11) Agreements with Various Contractors for Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS), Increasing the Combined Maximum of the Agreements from \$14,368,419 to \$16,414,391 (a Combined Increase of \$2,045,972), Effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024; Approval of, and Authorization for the VCBH Director to Approve Limited Modifications and to Extend the Term of the Agreements.**

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Approval of, and authorization for the Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Director or designee to sign, eleven (11) agreements with various contractors for Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS), increasing the combined contract amount from \$14,368,419 to \$16,414,391 (a combined increase of \$2,045,972), effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, with the contractors and in the amounts specified in the following table. The agreements are more fully described in the FY 2023-24 VCBH Medi-Cal SMHS Contracts Summary (Exhibit 1).

Exhibit #	Contractor	Contract Term	FY 2022-23 Contract Amount	FY 2023-24 Contract Amount	Increase/ (Decrease)	Division Number
2	Aspiranet - Collaborative Education Services Program (COEDS)	7-1-23 to 6-30-24	\$1,586,487	\$2,100,000	\$513,513	3200
3	Aspiranet - Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Program (EPSDT)	7-1-23 to 6-30-24	\$757,498	\$892,000	\$134,502	3200
4	Aspiranet - Intensive Services Foster Care Program (ISFC)	7-1-23 to 6-30-24	\$185,482	\$250,000	\$64,518	3200
5	Aspiranet - Therapeutic Behavioral Services and Intensive HomeBased Services Program (TBS/ICC/IHBS)	7-1-23 to 6-30-24	\$1,516,580	\$1,568,000	\$51,420	3200
6	Seneca Family of Agencies (Seneca) – Crisis Stabilization Unit Program (CSU)	7-1-23 to 6-30-24	\$3,888,858	\$4,083,302	\$194,444	3260
7	Seneca – Comprehensive Assessment and Stabilization Services (COMPASS)	7-1-23 to 6-30-24	\$1,867,553	\$1,960,932	\$93,379	3260
8	Seneca – Mobile Response Team (MRT)	7-1-23 to 6-30-24	\$115,345	\$1,024,813	\$909,468	3260
9	Casa Pacifica Center for Children and Families (Casa Pacifica) – Short Term Residential Treatment Program (STRTP)	7-1-23 to 6-30-24	\$1,553,528	\$1,348,547	(\$204,981)	3200
10	Casa Pacifica – Nonpublic School Services (NPS)	7-1-23 to 6-30-24	\$456,016	\$501,618	\$45,602	3200
11	Casa Pacifica Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) and Intensive Home-Based Services (TBS/IHBS)	7-1-23 to 6-30-24	\$2,242,428	\$2,466,671	\$224,243	3200
12	Casa Pacifica Intensive Services Foster Care (ISFC)	7-1-23 to 6-30-24	\$198,644	\$218,508	\$19,864	3200
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$14,368,419</b>	<b>\$16,414,391</b>	<b>\$2,045,972</b>	

2. Authorization for the VCBH Director or designee (a) to approve modifications to decrease the amount of each agreement, (b) to approve budget modifications that do not increase the amount of the agreement, (c) to approve modifications to the Provider Service Rates and Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Codes Table in the agreements that do not increase the amount of the agreement, (d) to approve corrections, clarifications and technical changes and modifications to each agreement, when the changes

are consistent with the original purpose of the agreement and do not result in additional costs to the County, and (e) to amend these agreements to revise or add language applicable to providers as required by the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), subject to County Counsel review and approval.

3. Authorization for the VCBH Director or designee to extend the term of the agreements referenced in Recommendation No. 1 (Exhibits 2-12), up to two (2) times for a period not to exceed one (1) year each, on the same or more favorable terms and conditions (with any changes in the Scope of Work to be consistent with the original purpose of the agreement), and for up to an amount not to exceed (a) the amount of each agreement specified above and (b) any Board-approved increase made to each agreement amount within FY 2023-24. All extensions would be subject to all necessary prior appropriations and other budgetary approvals by your Board and review and approval as to form by County Counsel.

**FISCAL/MANDATES IMPACT:**

**MHSA Division #3260**

Mandatory: No ☒ Yes ☐ Cite Authority: N/A

Source of Funding: Short Doyle/Medi-Cal (SD/MC) Federal Financial Participation (FFP), and Proposition 63 MHSA Funds

Funding Match Required: No

Impact on Other Department(s): None

	<u>FY 2022-23</u>	<u>FY 2023-24</u>
Summary of Revenue and Total Costs		
Revenue:	\$0	\$7,069,047
Costs:		
Direct Cost	\$0	\$7,069,047
Indirect - Dept.	\$0	\$0
Total Costs	\$0	\$7,069,047
Net County Costs	\$0	\$0
Recovered Indirect Cost:	\$0	\$0

Note: Revenue and appropriations are included in the FY 2023-2024 preliminary budget for MHSA Division #3260.

**MHL Unit #3200-3205 (Youth & Family Program Services)**

Mandatory: No [X] Yes [ ] Cite Authority: N/A  
Source of Funding: Short Doyle/Medi-Cal (SD/MC) Federal Financial Participation (FFP), 1991 Realignment (Trust N510-717C), 2011 Realignment (Trust N520-719C) and Local Education Agencies (LEA)  
Funding Match Required: No  
Impact on Other Department(s): None

	<u>FY 2022-23</u>	<u>FY 2023-24</u>
Summary of Revenue and Total Costs		
Revenue:	\$0	\$9,345,344
Costs:		
Direct Cost	\$0	\$9,345,344
Indirect - Dept.	\$0	\$0
Total Costs	\$0	\$9,345,344
Net County Costs	\$0	\$0
Recovered Indirect Cost:	\$0	\$0

Note: Revenue and appropriations are included in the FY 2023-2024 preliminary budget for MHL Unit #3200-3205 (Youth & Family Program Services)

**DISCUSSION:**

**Recommendation #1:**

Each year, VCBH contracts with a variety of contractors for the provision of a wide range of mental health related services to assist in meeting the needs of the various target populations served by VCBH. The contracts listed above in Recommendation No. 1 are described more fully in Exhibit 1 (FY 2023-24 VCBH Medi-Cal SMHS Contracts Summary). The proposed agreements are being renewed based on the contractors' successful performance under the current fiscal year contract and carry a new term of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

These contracts also include substantial contract boilerplate language, rate, and claiming methodology revisions that stem from VCBH's implementation of the State driven/required California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) initiative. CalAIM, is a California Department of Health Care Services initiative to reform and transform the Medi-Cal program by implementing a broad delivery system, program and payment reform, and knowledge learned from various successful pilot programs to transform the delivery of behavioral health services for Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

Essentially, the contract changes reflect CalAIM's shift away from claiming and reimbursement rates that are no longer cost-based interim rates but rather are final payment rates utilizing standardized codes for clinical services provided by licensed and non-licensed professionals for services that are in their scope of practice, and other service requirements that are designed to improve outcomes for Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

Contractor performance was reviewed throughout FY 2022-23 to ensure compliance with the contract goals and outcomes. The proposed contractors have complied with the terms and conditions of these agreements and performed satisfactorily in the delivery of the agreed upon services. When necessary, technical assistance has been provided to resolve any contractual issues. VCBH is satisfied with the performance of the proposed contractors and anticipates that the services to be provided will continue to meet or exceed expectations for service delivery in the next term. Ongoing monitoring, which will be inclusive of the new CalAIM requirements, will continue to be conducted throughout the coming fiscal year to review contractor compliance and ensure the provision of appropriate high-quality program services.

VCBH requests approval of, and authorization for the VCBH Director or designee to sign, the specified eleven (11) FY 2023-24 Agreements for the provision of SMHS services, in the combined maximum amount of \$16,414,391, as further specified in the table included in Recommendation No.1 above and more fully described in Exhibit 1 (FY 2023-24 VCBH Medi-Cal SMHS Contracts Summary).

#### **Recommendation #2:**

In order to quickly respond to changes needed to achieve agreement goals and ensure costs are maintained within available funding and budgets, VCBH also requests authorization for the VCBH Director or designee to approve modifications to decrease the amount of the agreements listed in Recommendation No. 1 (Exhibits 2 – 12), to approve contract modifications that do not increase the amount of the agreements, such as modifications to the Provider Service Rates and Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Codes Table in the agreements, corrections, clarifications and technical changes consistent with the original purpose of the agreements, and revisions required by the DHCS, subject to review and approval as to form by County Counsel.

#### **Recommendation #3:**

VCBH requests authorization for the VCBH Director or designee to extend the term of each of the agreements referenced in Recommendation No. 1 (Exhibits 2-12), up to two (2) times for a period not to exceed one (1) year per extension, on the same or more favorable terms and conditions, with any changes in the Scope of Work consistent with the original purpose of the agreement. Finally, the amount of the

extended agreement would be up to an amount not to exceed (a) the agreement amount recommended above and (b) any Board-approved increase(s) made to that agreement within FY 2023-24. All extensions would be subject to all necessary prior appropriations and other budgetary approvals by your Board and subject to review and approval as to form by County Counsel.

This Board letter has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, Auditor-Controller's Office, and County Counsel. If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact VCBH Director Scott Gilman at (805) 981-2214 or Health Care Agency Assistant Chief Financial Officer Narcisa Egan at (805) 973-5357.



SCOTT GILMAN, MSA  
Behavioral Health Director



BARRY L. ZIMMERMAN  
Health Care Agency Director

Attachments:

- Exhibit 1 – FY 2023-24 VCBH Medi-Cal SMHS Contracts Summary
- Exhibit 2 – FY 2023-24 Aspiranet COEDS - Agreement
- Exhibit 3 – FY 2023-24 Aspiranet EPSDT - Agreement
- Exhibit 4 – FY 2023-24 Aspiranet ISFC - Agreement
- Exhibit 5 – FY 2023-24 Aspiranet TBS/ICC/IHBS - Agreement
- Exhibit 6 – FY 2023-24 Seneca CSU - Agreement
- Exhibit 7 – FY 2023-24 Seneca COMPASS - Agreement
- Exhibit 8 – FY 2023-24 Seneca MRT - Agreement
- Exhibit 9 – FY 2023-24 Casa Pacifica STRTP - Agreement
- Exhibit 10 – FY 2023-24 Casa Pacifica NPS - Agreement
- Exhibit 11 – FY 2023-24 Casa Pacifica TBS/IHBS - Agreement
- Exhibit 12 – FY 2023-24 Casa Pacifica ISFC - Agreement