
Setting the Standard in Health Care Excellence

March 18, 2025

County of Ventura Board of Supervisors

Subject: Approval of a New Agreement with Aspiranet, for Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services, Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Services, in the Maximum Amount of \$1,356,586, Effective April 1, 2025 Through June 30, 2026; Ratification and Approval of, a Fourth Amendment with HealthRIGHT 360, for Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System Substance Use Disorder Services, Increasing the Maximum Amount of the Agreement from \$3,900,000 to \$4,125,000 (an Increase of \$225,000), Effective March 18, 2025. RECOMMENDATION NO. 5 REQUIRES 4/5THS VOTE. (Levine Act Item).

Recommendations:

1. Approval of, and authorization for the Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Director or designee to sign, a new Agreement with Aspiranet for Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS) Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) Services and Outreach, Engagement and start-up expenses, in the maximum contract amount of \$1,356,586, effective April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. (Exhibit 1)
2. Ratification and approval of, and authorization for the VCBH Director or designee to sign, the Fourth Amendment to the Agreement with HealthRIGHT 360 for Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System Substance Use Disorder Services (DMC-ODS SUD), to increase the maximum amount of the agreement from \$3,900,000 to \$4,125,000 (an increase of \$225,000), effective March 18, 2025, to reimburse HealthRIGHT 360 for services provided during FY 2023-2024 in excess of the agreement's annual maximum amount. (Exhibit 2)
3. Authorization for the VCBH Director or designee to amend the new agreement in Recommendation #1 to (a) decrease the amount of the agreement, (b) make contractual budget modifications that do not increase the amount of the agreement, and (c) make corrections, clarifications and technical changes to the agreement, when the changes are consistent with the original purpose of the agreement and do not result in additional costs to the County, subject to County Counsel review and approval as to form.
4. Authorization for the VCBH Director or designee to extend the term of the agreement in Recommendation #1, for two (2) fiscal year for periods of one 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). 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.

5. Authorization for the Auditor-Controller to process the necessary budgetary transactions to revise the following appropriations and revenue. (This recommendation requires 4/5ths vote.):

Increase/Decrease	Budget Division	Account Level	Amount
Increase	3220-3227	Services and Supplies	\$225,000
Increase	3220-3227	Charges for Services	\$225,000

Reason for Ratification:

In FY 2023-24, HealthRIGHT 360 experienced increased costs as this provider delivered higher than anticipated treatment services to clients. This resulted in HealthRIGHT 360 exceeding their FY 2023-24 maximum agreement amount. VCBH is increasing their FY 2023-24 maximum contract amount to compensate this provider for the additional services provided in FY 2023-24.

Fiscal Impact:

MHSA Budget Unit #3260-3261 (MHS CSS Youth and Family Service)

	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26
Revenues	\$92,087	\$1,264,499
Costs	\$92,087	\$1,264,499
Net County Cost	\$0	\$0

Funding Source(s): Short-Doyle/Medi-Cal (SD/MC) Federal Financial Participation (FFP) and Proposition 63 Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)

Match Requirement: None

SUS Budget Unit #3220-3227 (SUS Residential Services)

	FY 2024-25
Revenues	\$4,125,000
Costs	\$4,125,000
Net County Cost	\$0

Funding Source(s): Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS); 2011 Realignment; State General Fund (SGF); Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services Block Grant (SUBG) and Assembly Bill (AB) 109 funds.

Match Requirement: None

Discussion:

Recommendation #1

Aspiranet: In September 2024, VCBH issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking a new contractor to provide Medi-Cal SMHS EPSDT services to address unmet service needs within the City of Moorpark. After careful consideration of all candidates, VCBH selected Aspiranet to provide SMHS EPSDT services to youth under age twenty-one (21) who reside within the city limits and who meet the criteria for SMHS.

Through the proposed agreement, Aspiranet will provide both outreach and engagement and mental health treatment services to meet the needs and goals of beneficiaries residing in the City of Moorpark. This agreement is funded by SD/MC FFP and Proposition 63 Mental Health Services Act (MHSA).

VCBH recommends approval of, and authorization for the VCBH Director or designee to sign, the new Agreement with Aspiranet for SMHS EPSDT services in the maximum amount of the agreement of \$1,356,586, effective April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

Recommendation #2

HealthRIGHT 360: provides three levels of residential treatment services and one level of withdrawal management treatment services for women and their children. The three levels of residential treatment services include: (1) clinically managed low-intensity residential services, (2) clinically managed population-specific high-intensity residential services for adults only, and (3) clinically managed residential services with high intensity for adults and medium intensity for adolescents.

The proposed Fourth amendment to the agreement is needed to reimburse HealthRIGHT 360 for the cost increases that were incurred in FY 2023-24 due to the delivery of higher than anticipated treatment services to plan members. The agreement is being increased by \$225,000 to reimburse HealthRIGHT 360 for their increased costs. This agreement is funded by DMC-ODS, State General Fund, SUBG, 2011 Realignment, and AB 109 funds.

VCBH recommends approval of, and authorization for the VCBH Director or designee to sign, the Fourth Amendment to the Agreement with HealthRIGHT 360 for DMC-ODS SUD services, increasing the maximum agreement amount from \$3,900,000 to \$4,125,000 (an increase of \$225,000), effective March 18, 2025.

Recommendation #3

In order to timely respond to needed changes to achieve contract goals and ensure costs are maintained within available funding and budgets, VCBH also requests authorization for the VCBH Director or designee to amend the agreement in Recommendation #1 to (a) decrease the amount of each agreement, (b) approve contractual budget modifications that do not increase the amount of the agreement, and (c) make corrections, clarifications,

and technical changes 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, subject to County Counsel review and approval.

Recommendation #4

VCBH requests authorization for the VCBH Director or designee to extend the term of the agreement referenced in Recommendation #1, for two (2) fiscal year for periods of one 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 the agreement specified above and (b) any Board-approved increase made to the agreement amount within FY 2024-25. 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.

Recommendation #5

To ensure that sufficient appropriations are available, VCBH is also recommending approval of and authorization for Auditor-Controller to process the budgetary transactions necessary to increase both appropriations and revenue, as discussed above in Recommendation #5 to cover the additional delayed payment to HealthRIGHT 360.

Strategic Plan Priority:

The item presented in this Board letter ties to Goal #1 of the Healthy, Safe, and Resilient Communities strategic priority of the County Strategic Plan as it is designed to meet the goal of providing equitable and timely access to quality mental health services.

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 Behavioral Health Director Loretta L. Denering DrPH, MS at (805) 981-2214 or HCA Assistant Chief Financial Officer Narcisa Egan at (805) 973-5357.



LORETTA L. DENERING, DrPH, MS
Behavioral Health Director



THERESA CHO, MD, MHA
Health Care Agency Director

**Board of Supervisors
FY 24-26 Aspiranet Agreement and FY 24-25 Fourth Amendment for HealthRIGHT360
March 18, 2025
Page 5 of 5**

Attachments:

Exhibit 1 – FY 24-26 Aspiranet – Agreement

Exhibit 2 – FY 24-25 HealthRIGHT 360 – Fourth Amendment