

Setting the Standard in Health Care Excellence

June 18, 2024

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, Four Agreements with Conejo Health, Idea Engineering, Inc., Reality Improv Connection, Inc., and Khepera House to Provide Substance Use Prevention and Recovery Residence Related Services, Increasing the Combined Maximum Amount of \$783,589 to \$1,312,616 (a Combined Increase of \$529,027), Effective July 1, 2024 Through June 30, 2025; Approval of, and Authorization for the VCBH Director to Make Limited Modifications and Extend the Term of the Agreements.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Approval of, and authorization for the Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Director or designee, to sign four agreements with Conejo Health, Idea Engineering, Inc., Reality Improv Connection, Inc., and Khepera House to provide Substance Use Prevention and Recovery Residence related services, increasing the combined contract maximum amount of \$783,589 to \$1,312,616 (a combined increase of \$529,027) and in the individual amounts specified in the table below, effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 (Exhibits 2-5). The four agreements are more fully described in Exhibit 1.

Exhibit #	Contractor	Contract Term	FY 2023-24 Contract Amount	FY 2024-25 Proposed Contract Amount	Increase/ (Decrease)	Division Number
2*	Conejo Health	7-1-24 to 6-30-25	\$90,135	\$240,000	\$149,865	3220
3*	Idea Engineering, Inc.	7-1-24 to 6-30-25	\$269,630	\$411,020	\$141,390	3220
4*	Reality Improv Connection, Inc. (Reality Improv)	7-1-24 to 6-30-25	\$227,654	\$351,346	\$123,692	3220
5	Khepera House	7-1-24 to 6-30-25	\$196,170	\$310,250	\$114,080	3220
Total			\$783,589	\$1,312,616	\$529,027	3220

2*: FY23-24 amount of the contract was for four (4) months only (Mar 2024-Jun 2024).

3*: FY23-24 amount was for six (6) months of an 18-month contract (Jan 2024-Jun 2024).

4*: FY23-24 amount was for six (6) months of an 18-month contract (Jan 2024-Jun 2024).

2. Authorization for the VCBH Director or designee by amendments (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 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 (d) 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 # 1 (Exhibits 2-5), 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 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.

FISCAL/MANDATES IMPACT:

SUS Budget Unit# 3220 Substance Use Services

Mandatory: No [X] Yes [] Cite Authority: N/A

Source of Funding: Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services Block Grant (SUBG) and SUBG American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

Funding Match Required: None

Impact on Other Department(s): None

	<u>FY 2023-24</u>	<u>FY 2024-25</u>
Summary of Revenue and Total Costs		
Revenue:	\$0	\$1,312,616
Costs:		
Direct Cost	\$0	\$1,312,616
Indirect - Dept.	\$0	\$0
Total Costs	\$0	\$1,312,616
Net County Costs	\$0	\$0
Recovered Indirect Cost:	\$0	\$0

FY 2023-24 Adjusted Budget for Substance Use Services BU #3220				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Actual	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriations	\$32,562,193	\$39,020,818	\$31,605,843	\$7,414,975
Revenue	\$31,853,989	\$33,799,974	\$30,531,564	(\$3,268,410)
Net Cost	\$708,204	\$5,220,844	\$1,074,279	\$4,146,565

Note: There are sufficient revenue and appropriations included in the FY 2024-25 preliminary budget for Substance Use Services BU #3220.

STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITY:

The item presented in this Board letter ties to 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.

DISCUSSION:

Recommendation #1:

Each year, VCBH contracts with a variety of contractors for the provision of a wide range of SUS prevention and residence recovery services to assist in meeting the needs of the various target populations served by VCBH. The contracts listed above in Recommendation #1 are described more fully in Exhibit 1 (FY 2024-25 SUS Prevention Contracts Summary). The proposed Agreements are based on the contractors' successful performance during the current fiscal year contracts and are for an initial term of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

Contractor performance is reviewed throughout the fiscal year to ensure compliance with the contract goals and outcomes. The proposed contractors have complied with the terms and conditions of prior agreements and performed satisfactorily in the delivery of similar services. When necessary, technical assistance has been provided to resolve any contractual issues. VCBH is satisfied with the past performance of the proposed contractors and anticipates that services to be provided under the new Agreements will continue to meet or exceed expectations for service delivery in the next term. Ongoing monitoring will be conducted throughout the coming fiscal year to verify 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, four (4) agreements with various contractors for the provision of various SUS prevention and residence recovery services, increasing the combined contract maximum amount of \$783,589 to \$1,312,616 (a combined increase of \$529,027) as further specified in the table included in Recommendation #1 above, effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. The agreements and amendments are more fully described in Exhibit 1.


Recommendation #2:

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 by amendments (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 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 (d) 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.

Recommendation #3:

VCBH requests authorization for the VCBH Director or designee to extend the term of the agreements referenced in Recommendation #1 (Exhibits 2-5), up to two times for a period not to exceed one year, 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 agreements), and for up to an amount not to exceed (a) the amount of the agreements specified above in Recommendation #1 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.

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


DR. LORETTA L. DENERING, DRPH, MS
Interim Behavioral Health Director
BARRY ZIMMERMAN
Health Care Agency Director

Attachments:

- Exhibit 1 - FY 2024-25 SUS Prevention Contracts Summary**
- Exhibit 2 – FY24-25 Conejo Health SUS Prevention Agreement**
- Exhibit 3 – FY24-25 Idea Engineering SUS Prevention Agreement**
- Exhibit 4 – FY24-25 Reality Improv SUS Prevention Agreement**
- Exhibit 5 – FY24-25 Khepera House Recovery Residence Agreement**