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*Setting the Standard in Health Care Excellence*

June 3, 2025

County of Ventura Board of Supervisors

**Subject:** Approval of a First Amendment to the Agreement with Regents of the University of California, for the Early Psychosis Learning Health Care Network Project, for the Existing Agreement Amount of \$764,119, Effective June 3, 2025 for the Current Term of September 24, 2024 Through June 30, 2028.

**Recommendations:**

1. Approval of, and authorization for the Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Director or designee, to sign the First Amendment to the Agreement with Regents of the University of California (UC Davis), for the Early Psychosis Learning Health Care Network (EP LHCN) project, for the existing agreement amount of \$764,119, effective June 3, 2025 for the current term (September 24, 2024 through June 30, 2028). (Exhibit 1)
2. Authorization for the VCBH Director or designee to amend the agreement 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.

**Fiscal Impact\*:****MHSA Budget Unit #3260-3269 (MHS Innovation)**

	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28
Revenues	\$129,293	\$204,215	\$211,401	\$219,210
Costs	\$129,293	\$204,215	\$211,401	\$219,210
Net County Cost	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Funding Source: Proposition 63 Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)

Match Requirement: None

\* Sufficient revenue and appropriations are available in the FY24-25 budget.

**Discussion:**

**Recommendation #1:**

**UC Davis:** on September 24, 2024, your Board approved an Agreement with UC Davis for VCBH to join the Innovation research project: known as the Early Psychosis Program Participation in California Early Psychosis Intervention Network (EPI-CAL), a multi-year initiative that connects Early Psychosis (EP) programs across California in the effort of improving early identification, diagnosis, clinical assessment, intervention effectiveness, service delivery, and health outcomes in clinics offering evidence-based specialty care to persons in the early stages of psychotic illness. The research project's goals are to (1) support the provision of high-quality EP care to all Californians, promote recovery, and (2) support better clinical outcomes through a learning health care network approach.

Since then, VCBH and UC Davis have identified several improvements to the Agreement and negotiated the proposed Amendment attached to this Item. The proposed first amendment, would (1) update the legal entity name for UC Davis, (2) include mutual indemnification language tailored to the Parties' public entity status, (3) address copyright and ownership of work product produced under the agreement, and (4) update insurance requirements. This agreement will be funded by MHSA.

VCBH requests approval of, and authorization for the VCBH Director or designee to sign, the First Amendment with to the Agreement with UC Davis for the EP LHCN project, for the existing amount of \$764,119, effective June 3, 2025 for the current term (September 24, 2024 through June 30, 2028).

**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 to amend the agreement in Recommendation #1 to (a) decrease the amount of the agreement, (b) approve 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.

**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

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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

Attachment:  
Exhibit 1 – FY 24-28 UC Davis – First Amendment