

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE ORGANIZATIONAL PROVIDER AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF VENTURA AND NEW WAY GROUP HOME**

This "First Amendment" to the Agreement for Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services, which became effective July 1, 2023, is made and entered into by and between the COUNTY OF VENTURA, acting through its Behavioral Health Department, a primary service provider, hereinafter referred to as "COUNTY", and NEW WAY GROUP HOME, hereinafter referred to as "CONTRACTOR".

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereby agree that the Agreement, is amended nunc pro tunc as follows:

- I. Effective with respect to the service period commencing July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, Section 3 (PAYMENT), shall be revised to read as follows:

3. **PAYMENT.** The maximum contract amount shall not exceed \$625,000. CONTRACTOR shall be paid in accordance with Exhibit "B" (PAYMENT TERMS).
- II. Effective with respect to the service period commencing July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, Exhibit "B" (PAYMENT TERMS) of the Agreement is deleted and replaced with new Exhibit "B", attached hereto.
- III. Effective with respect to the service period commencing July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, Attachment A to Exhibit "B" (PROVIDER SERVICE RATES AND PROCEDURE CODE REPORTS) of the agreement is deleted and replaced with new Attachment A to Exhibit "B" (PROVIDER SERVICE RATES), attached hereto.
- IV. Except for the modifications described here, all other terms and conditions of the Agreement, shall remain in effect.
- V. This First Amendment may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall constitute an original, and all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same instrument.
- VI. The parties hereto agree that this First Amendment may be transmitted and signed by electronic or digital means by either/any or both/all parties and that such signatures shall have the same force and effect as original signatures, in accordance with California Government Code Section 16.5 and California Civil Code Section 1633.7.


[SIGNATURES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have executed this First Amendment through their duly authorized representatives as of the last date written below.

NEW WAY GROUP HOME

COUNTY OF VENTURA

BY


(authorized signature)

Thinh Pham, CEO

(print name and title)

5/16/2024

Date

26-1183704

Federal Tax Identification #

BY


(authorized signature)

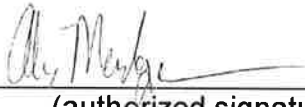
Dr. Loretta Demering DrPH, MS
Interim BH Director
(print name and title)

6-5-2024

Date

NEW WAY GROUP HOME

BY


(authorized signature)

Alex Mendoza, CFO

(print name and title)

5/16/2024

Date

* If a corporation, this First Amendment must be signed by two specific corporate officers.

The first signature must be either the (1) Chief Executive Officer, (2) Chairman of the Board, (3) President, or any (4) Vice President.

The second signature must be the (a) Secretary, an (b) Assistant Secretary, the (c) Chief Financial Officer, or any (d) Assistant Treasurer.

In the alternative, a single corporate signature is acceptable when accompanied by a corporate resolution demonstrating the legal authority of the signature to bind the company.

EXHIBIT "B"
PAYMENT TERMS
New Way Group Home
July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

- A. COUNTY shall pay CONTRACTOR in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this Exhibit "B" and Attachment A to Exhibit "B" for CONTRACTOR's satisfactory performance or provision of the services and work described in Exhibit "A". Except as expressly provided in this Agreement, the maximum total sum of all payments made by COUNTY to CONTRACTOR for the services and work performed or provided under this Agreement for the service period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, shall not exceed \$625,000. This not to exceed amount is not a guaranteed sum but shall be paid only for services actually rendered. Any unspent fiscal year appropriation does not roll over and is not available for services provided in subsequent years. The funding sources for this Agreement could include Short-Doyle Medi-Cal Federal Financial Participation and 2011 Realignment.
- B. CONTRACTOR shall enter claims data into COUNTY's Billing and Transactional Database System within the timeframes established by COUNTY. CONTRACTOR shall use CPT or Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes, as provided in the DHCS Billing Manual available at <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/MH/Pages/MedCCC-Library.aspx>, as from time to time amended. CONTRACTOR will review the DHCS Billing Manual periodically to ensure CONTRACTOR is aware of any changes and utilizing the information from the most current version of the manual.
- C. CONTRACTOR shall bill COUNTY monthly in arrears by invoice using CONTRACTOR's own letterhead or format and include a signed Certification of Claims form (Exhibit "I") and a printout from COUNTY's Billing and Transactional Database System of billable services (invoices shall be based on claims entered into the COUNTY's Billing and Transactional Database System for the prior month). If a printout from COUNTY's Billing and Transactional Database System is unavailable, COUNTY will reimburse CONTRACTOR 1/12th of the Agreement's maximum contract amount for the services specified in this Exhibit "B," until the issue is resolved, as determined by COUNTY. If this payment methodology is used, COUNTY will complete a reconciliation of the units of service and rates against the payments made to CONTRACTOR to identify any over or under payments. COUNTY is entitled to recover, and CONTRACTOR shall remit any amount overpaid to CONTRACTOR within forty-five (45) days of any COUNTY completed reconciliation. The COUNTY will remit any additional payments required to the CONTRACTOR upon any COUNTY completed reconciliation.
- D. **TIMELY BILLING.** CONTRACTOR shall generate a monthly Timely Billing Report that has been reviewed by CONTRACTOR's Chief Financial Officer, Controller, or highest-ranking accounting officer. CONTRACTOR's accounting officer's signature on the report indicates that timeliness related to billing will be managed to achieve an average of three business days or less from the time of service to the date of entry in COUNTY's Billing and Transactional Database System. The signed Timely Billing Report must be attached with the monthly invoice and submitted to the COUNTY.

CONTRACTOR shall ensure that all data is entered in a timely manner in order to produce the most accurate reports.

- E. Payment shall be made in arrears upon the submission of approved invoices to COUNTY. Monthly payments for claimed services shall be based on the units of time assigned to each CPT or HCPCS code entered in the COUNTY's Billing and Transactional Database System multiplied by the service rates in Attachment A to Exhibit "B" COUNTY's payments to CONTRACTOR for performance of claimed services are provisional and subject to adjustment until the completion of all reconciliation activities. COUNTY's adjustments to provisional payments for claimed services shall be based on the terms, conditions, and limitations of this Agreement or the reasons for recoupment set forth in Section 62, Audit of Services, Subsections D and E. All payments shall be subject to audit and reconciliation. COUNTY agrees to pay CONTRACTOR for approved services rendered, less any services that are disallowed for any reason by the COUNTY Quality Assurance Division. CONTRACTOR shall be liable for any expenses incurred by CONTRACTOR in excess of the contract maximum. In no event shall the maximum amount payable hereunder exceed the maximum contract amount under this Agreement, as specified in Section A of Exhibit "B".
- F. CONTRACTOR has submitted to COUNTY for its review and consideration a budget that contains estimated staffing which is applicable under this Agreement. COUNTY will use this information as an ongoing monitoring guide and will also include in COUNTY monitoring the measure of productivity, service level expectation, and the ability to achieve outcomes as specified in this Agreement.
- G. SD/MC reimbursement provision: For Medi-Cal eligible services COUNTY acknowledges its responsibility to pay CONTRACTOR with respect to services provided to Medi-Cal beneficiaries under this Agreement, CONTRACTOR shall comply with Medi-Cal State Plan and Medi-Cal SMHS Waiver requirements. The Short-Doyle/Medi-Cal reimbursement is composed of FFP and Local Matching Funds (County Resources). COUNTY requests that CONTRACTOR maximize services under this Agreement utilizing Short-Doyle/Medi-Cal funding as applicable. CONTRACTOR must accept as payment in full the amounts paid by COUNTY in accordance with this Agreement. CONTRACTOR may not demand any additional payment from DHCS, client, or other third-party payers.
- H. CONTRACTOR may not redirect or transfer funds from one funded program to another funded program under which CONTRACTOR provides services pursuant to this Agreement except through a duly executed amendment to this Agreement.
- I. CONTRACTOR may not charge services delivered to an eligible client under one funded program to another funded program unless the client is also eligible for services under the second funded program.
- J. It is expressly understood and agreed between the parties hereto that COUNTY shall make no payment and has no obligation to make payment to CONTRACTOR unless the services provided by CONTRACTOR hereunder were authorized by DIRECTOR or his or her designee prior to performance thereof.

- K. CONTRACTOR or subcontractor of CONTRACTOR shall not submit a claim to, or demand or otherwise collect reimbursement from, the beneficiary or persons acting on behalf of the beneficiary for any SMHS or related administrative services provided under this Agreement, except to collect other health insurance coverage, share of cost, and co-payments (CCR, tit 9 Section 1810.365(a)).
- L. CONTRACTOR shall not charge any clients or third-party payers any fee for service unless directed to do so by the Director at the time the client is referred for services. When directed to charge for services, CONTRACTOR shall use the uniform billing and collection guidelines prescribed by DHCS.
- M. CONTRACTOR or subcontractor of CONTRACTOR shall not hold beneficiaries liable for debts in the event that the COUNTY becomes insolvent; for costs of covered services for which the State does not pay the COUNTY; for costs of covered services for which the State or the COUNTY does not pay the COUNTY's network providers; for costs of covered services provided under a contract, referral or other arrangement rather than from the COUNTY; or for payment of subsequent screening and treatment needed to diagnose the specific condition of or stabilize a beneficiary. 42 CFR 438.106 and Cal Code Regs Title 9 1810.365(c).
- N. CONTRACTOR agrees to hold harmless both the State of California and beneficiaries in the event the COUNTY cannot or does not pay for services performed by the CONTRACTOR pursuant to this Agreement.
- O. This Agreement shall be subject to any restrictions, limitations, and/or conditions imposed by County or State or Federal funding sources that may in any way affect the fiscal provisions of or funding for this Agreement. This Agreement is also contingent upon sufficient funds being made available by COUNTY or State or Federal funding sources for the term of the Agreement. If the Federal or State governments reduce financial participation in the Medi-Cal program, COUNTY agrees to meet with CONTRACTOR to discuss renegotiating the services required by this Agreement.
- P. COUNTY will not remit payment for services to any entity or financial institution that is located outside of the United States of America. CONTRACTOR certifies, by executing this Agreement, that it and its subcontractors are located (and, where CONTRACTOR and/or its subcontractors are corporations, incorporated) in the United States of America.
- Q. COUNTY will not remit payment for services furnished to an excluded individual or entity, or at the direction of a physician during the period of exclusion when the person providing the service knew or had reason to know of the exclusion, or to an individual or entity when the State Department of Health Care Services or COUNTY failed to suspend payments during an investigation of a credible allegation of fraud (42 U.S.C. section 1396b(i)(2)).
- R. In accordance with 42 C.F.R. 438.608(a)(8) and 42 C.F.R. part 455.23, in cases where there is a credible allegation of fraud for which an investigation is pending

under the Medicaid program against CONTRACTOR or their network provider, COUNTY shall suspend all payments to CONTRACTOR, unless there is good cause not to suspend payments or to suspend payment only in part.

- S. COUNTY will not remit payment for any item or service furnished under this Agreement: (1) by CONTRACTOR or any individual or entity during any period when CONTRACTOR, the individual, or entity is excluded from participation under the Social Security Act, sections 1128, 1128A, 1156 or 1842(j)(2), (2) that is provided by any individual, entity, at the medical direction or on the prescription of a physician, during the period when the individual, entity, or physician is excluded from participation under titles V, XVIII, or XX or pursuant to sections 1128, 1128A, 1156, or 1842(j)(2) of the Social Security Act and when the person furnishing such items or service knew, or had reason to know, of the exclusion (after a reasonable time period after reasonable notice has been furnished to the person), (3) if the State has failed to suspend payments during any period when there is a pending investigation of a credible allegation of fraud against the individual, entity, or physician, unless the State determines there is good cause not suspend such payments, or (4) in respect to any amount expended for which funds may not be used under the Assisted Suicide Funding Restriction Act (ASFRA) of 1997.
- T. In the event that CONTRACTOR fails to comply with any provision of this Agreement, including the timely submission of any and all reports, records, documents, or any other information as required by County, State, and appropriate Federal agencies regarding CONTRACTOR's activities and operations as they relate to CONTRACTOR's performance of this Agreement, COUNTY shall withhold payment until such noncompliance has been corrected.
- U. CONTRACTOR hereby acknowledges that all claims for payment for services rendered shall be in accordance with Exhibit "I" (Certification of Claims for Payment for Services Rendered), attached hereto and made a part hereof by this reference.
- V. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, SD/MC services provided hereunder by CONTRACTOR, shall comply with and be compensated in accordance with all applicable Federal, State, and COUNTY laws, regulations, requirements, and any amendments or changes thereto, including but not limited to, DHCS SD/MC, Medi-Cal SMHS title 9, Chapter 11, DMH Cost Reporting Data Collection Manual, title 19 of the Social Security Act, title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 51516, and policy letters issued by the DMH-DHCS, Program regulations and requirements as specified by DMH-DHCS. It is understood that such services will subsequently be billed by COUNTY for SD/MC FFP.
- W. CONTRACTOR shall ensure that all services provided under this Agreement which are eligible for SD/MC FFP reimbursement shall be reported to COUNTY in accordance with COUNTY reporting timelines, instructions, and formats. COUNTY in its sole discretion may withhold payment to CONTRACTOR if CONTRACTOR does not comply with such reporting timelines, instructions, and formats as required by COUNTY. COUNTY shall be responsible for billing the appropriate entity for reimbursement of the SD/MC services provided and reported by CONTRACTOR to COUNTY.

- X. CONTRACTOR understands and agrees that all SD/MC FFP revenue generated by the services provided by CONTRACTOR under this Agreement shall be reimbursed to COUNTY.
- Y. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, in no event shall COUNTY be liable or responsible to CONTRACTOR for any payment for any disallowed SD/MC services provided hereunder, which are the result of CONTRACTOR's sole negligence in providing SD/MC services under this Agreement. CONTRACTOR shall be required to fully reimburse COUNTY for any payment by COUNTY to CONTRACTOR that is subsequently disallowed through Federal, State, county or any other entity audit(s) or review(s) including any services that are disallowed for any reason by the VCBH Quality Assurance Division.
- Z. Claims deemed unallowable shall be subject to recoupment or recovery by the COUNTY.
- AA. CONTRACTOR shall not bill beneficiaries for covered services under a contractual, referral, or other arrangement with COUNTY in excess of the amount that would be owed by the individual if the COUNTY had directly provided the services (42 U.S.C 1396u-2(b)(6)(C)).
- BB. COUNTY and CONTRACTOR agree to meet on an ongoing basis to negotiate concerns related to this Agreement, including but not limited to treatment coordination, service utilization and outcomes, documentation and reporting requirements.

Attachment A to EXHIBIT "B"
PROVIDER SERVICE RATES
NEW WAY GROUP HOME
July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

- A. In consideration of the services specified in EXHIBIT "A" PROGRAM DESCRIPTION, performed in a manner acceptable to COUNTY, COUNTY shall pay CONTRACTOR monthly, in arrears, only for approved SMHS services provided hereunder to Ventura County clients, referred by COUNTY, at the agreed upon rates specified below in Table 1: Provider Service Rates. Table 1 lists the hourly rates and types of CONTRACTOR's providers that are authorized to provide services under this Agreement.

Table 1: Provider Hourly Service Rates		
Practitioner Type	Per Hour Rate	Contract Amount/Projected Costs
LPHAs (MFT LCSW LPCC)/ Intern or Waivered LPHAs (MFT LCSW LPCC)	\$212.81	
Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$174.48	
Licensed Physicians	\$545.14	
Mental Health Rehab Specialists	\$160.11	
Nurse Practitioners	\$406.63	
Other Qualified Practitioners	\$160.11	
Peer Support Specialists	\$168.11	
Registered Nurses	\$332.14	
total		\$ 625,000