Procurements & Contract Extensions for Behavioral Health Services (BHS) Contracts

BHS is a specialty behavioral health plan that serves approximately 113,000 residents annually through a network of County-operated programs and through more than 350 community-based contracts. In alignment with County procurement policies and administrative processes, BHS requests authority from the San Diego County Board of Supervisors generally at least twice each year to issue competitive procurements, enter into single source contracts, or extend existing contracts.

BHS uses competitive solicitation processes to select providers for many contracted services. For some highly specialized services, BHS may use a single source contracting process when appropriate and consistent with County requirements. Contracts may include a one-year term with up to four additional option years, depending on the service, procurement approach, funding, performance, and other applicable requirements.

For purposes of the recommendations below, BHS procurement and contract actions may fall within the following categories based on the purpose of the action: **Continue**, **Reprocure**, and **Add**.

- Continue: Ensure needed services keep running without gaps, including through short-term extensions when contracts end or transitions are underway
- Reprocure: Competitively procure ongoing services; may also include updates to services in response to changes in community needs, regulatory requirements, clinical practices, or funding requirements
- Add: Bring in new or expanded capacity, specialized services, expertise, or partnerships to meet emerging needs or strengthen program operations

The table below summarizes recommendations that will be brought to the Board for approval on **November 17, 2026**. These actions are intended to help maintain access to critical behavioral health care to Medi-Cal beneficiaries and ensure services are available where they are most needed, in alignment with BHS Optimal Care Pathways (OCP) models.

	Program Name	Description	Medi-Cal	Proposed Budget	Region Served	Action
Recommendation 1 – Authorize Competitive Procurements						
Electronic Health Record				**Total Value** **FY 27/28 - $2.5M** **FY 28/29 - $2.5M**		
a.	**Electronic Health Record**	The implementation of an EHR system will support safe, coordinated services in the County's Skilled Nursing Facility. The EHR is essential for enhancing medication management,	N	FY 27/28 - $2.5M FY 28/29 - $2.5M	County wide	Add

	Program Name	Description	Medi-Cal	Proposed Budget	Region Served	Action
	(EHR) System	clinical documentation, and interdisciplinary workflows for residents with complex medical, behavioral health, or neurocognitive needs.				
Justice-Involved Adult Services				**Total Value FY27/28 - $4.1M FY28/29 - $4.2M**		
b.	**In-Reach Services**	In-Reach Services engage incarcerated adults who have or are at risk of psychological disorders and/or substance use conditions to prepare them for community reentry and decrease recidivism. This is accomplished by improving outcomes among key areas of functioning, including, health, housing, mental health, prosocial behavior, substance use, family wellness, and employment. Services are provided countywide, and include screening, case management, group and individual counseling, crisis intervention, and coordination to substance use treatment including residential treatment, if needed.	Y	FY27/28 - $4.1M FY28/29 - $4.2M	County wide	Reprocure
Substance Use Disorder Prevention Services				**Total Value FY27/28 - $2.7M FY28/29 - $2.7M**		
c.	**Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Prevention Regional Services**	SUD Prevention Services deliver comprehensive programs aligned with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's strategies on Center for Substance Abuse Prevention and the California Department of Health Care Services' Substance Use Prevention Plan. These efforts aim to promote healthy and safe communities by increasing community capacity,	N	FY27/28 - $2.7M FY28/29 - $2.7M	County wide	Reprocure

	Program Name	Description	Medi-Cal	Proposed Budget	Region Served	Action
		reducing harms associated with substance misuse, and preventing overdose.				
Recommendation 2 – Authorize Single Source Procurements						
Early Intervention Services				**Total Value FY 27/28 - $4.2M FY 28/29 - $4.3M**		
a.	**Native American Intervention Services** Current Contractor: **Indian Health Council, Inc.**	The Native American Early Intervention Services integrate community-defined evidence practices (CDEPs) with traditional evidence-based approaches to meet the needs of youth, families, adults and older adults across tribal communities.	Y	FY 27/28 - $1.6M FY 28/29 - $1.6M	East/ North Inland	Reprocure
a.	**Native American Intervention Services** Current Contractor: **San Diego American Indian Health Center**	The Native American Early Intervention Services integrate CDEPs with traditional evidence-based approaches to meet the needs of youth, families, adults and older adults across tribal communities.	Y	FY 27/28 - $1.2M FY 28/29 - $1.3M	Central/ North Central	Reprocure
a.	**Native American Intervention Services**	The Native American Early Intervention Services integrate CDEPs with traditional evidence-based approaches to meet the needs of youth, families, adults and older adults across tribal communities.	Y	FY 27/28 - $1.4M FY 28/29 - $1.4M	East/ South	Reprocure

	Program Name	Description	Medi-Cal	Proposed Budget	Region Served	Action
	Current Contractor: **Southern Indian Health Council, Inc.**					
Psychiatric and Community Treatment				**Total Value FY 27/28 - $0.8M FY 28/29 - $0.8M**		
b.	**Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) and Community Treatment Facility (CTF) Services** Current Contractor: **Star View Behavioral Health, Inc.**	These programs serve children and adolescents who meet seriously emotionally disturbed criteria, are full-scope Medi-Cal beneficiaries, and reside in Star View's PHF and CTF.	Y	FY 27/28 - $0.8M FY 28/29 - $0.8M	County wide	Reprocure
Recommendation 3a – Authorize an Amendment to Extend CalWORKs Connection with Vista Hill Foundation						
CalWORKs Services				**Total Value FY 27/28 - $1.3M**		

	Program Name	Description	Medi-Cal	Proposed Budget	Region Served	Action
	CalWORKs Connection *Current contractor:* **Vista Hill Foundation, 566042**	This service is a core component of the CalWORKs program, supporting compliance with work participation requirements, and serving as a required element for determining self-sufficiency eligibility. Furthermore, it enables welfare to work participants experiencing SUD to access critical resources needed to obtain and maintain employment. **Reason for Contract Extension:** An extension is requested until June 30, 2028 to maintain uninterrupted access to critical behavioral health and stabilization services that support CalWORKs families in achieving lasting economic self-sufficiency. If approved, this will ensure service continuity for vulnerable CalWORKs families while allowing time for funding to stabilize and long-term program planning to occur.	N	FY 27/28 - $1.3M	County wide	Continue
Recommendation 3b – Authorize an Amendment to Extend San Diego's Web Infrastructure for Treatment Services with FEI.com, Inc.						
Electronic Health Record				**Total Value FY27/28 - $0.8M**		
	San Diego's Web Infrastructure for Treatment Services *Current contractor:* **FEI.com. Inc., 553427**	Although BHS transitioned to SmartCare as its clinical and billing system in late 2024, the SanWITS program's services, demographic, and outcome data for adults and adolescents receiving substance use prevention and treatment services must remain accessible. The SanWITS system was required for billing reconciliation activities and currently remains available for providers to access former client information as needed to support continuity of care. **Reason for Contract Extension:** Until the data archival work is completed, continued access to SanWITS is essential. The system remains necessary to support	N	FY 27/28 - $0.8M	County wide	Continue

Program Name	Description	Medi-Cal	Proposed Budget	Region Served	Action
	ongoing audit and reporting activities, provider access to historical client data, and resolution of outstanding billing reconciliation matters. An extension is requested until June 30, 2029, to allow BHS to complete remaining technical assessments, finalize an implementation-ready archival plan and safeguard access to critical historical data. This approach protects both operational integrity and regulatory compliance while providing the necessary time to transition the system responsibly.				
Recommendation 4 – Waive Board Policy A-87, Competitive Procurement, and Authorize Award to Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital					
Adolescent Services			**Total Value** **FY 27/28 - $1.8M** **FY 28/29 - $1.9M**		
Intensive Teen Recovery	The Intensive Teen Recovery Center (ITRC) will provide intensive outpatient substance use treatment and High Intensity Outpatient Services, also known as partial hospitalization, for adolescents ages 12 up to 21 years and their families. The ITRC program is designed for adolescents with substance use disorders who require six or more hours of service weekly.	Y	**FY 27/28 - $1.8M** **FY 28/29 - $1.9M**	County wide	Add
Recommendation 5 – Waive Board Policy A-87, Competitive Procurement, and Authorize Awards to Scripps Health, BH-SD OPCO, LLC. dba Alvarado Parkway Institute, Inc., Aurora Behavioral Health Care San Diego, Sharp Healthcare, Regents of the University of California, UCSD, and Prime Healthcare Paradise Valley, LLC					
Psychiatric Inpatient Services			**Total Value** **FY 27/28 - $0M** **FY 28/29 - $0M**		
Medi-Cal Managed Care Psychiatric Inpatient	Psychiatric inpatient hospital services are provided countywide for adults and older adults experiencing psychiatric symptoms requiring 24□hour observation and intensive treatment. Services include the diagnosis, care, and treatment of acute episodes. The inpatient setting	Y	FY 27/28 - $0M FY 28/29 - $0M Zero-Dollar Contracts	County wide	Reprocure

Program Name	Description	Medi-Cal	Proposed Budget	Region Served	Action
Hospital Services Current Contractor: **Scripps Health, BH-SD OPCO, LLC dba Alvarado Parkway Institute Inc., Aurora Behavioral Health Care San Diego, Sharp HealthCare (2 contracts), Regents of the University of California, UCSD, Prime Healthcare Paradise Valley, LLC**	offers a secure environment where individuals can stabilize, regain functioning, and develop an aftercare plan before transitioning to a lower level of care.				