



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

NORA VARGAS
First District

JOEL ANDERSON
Second District

TERRA LAWSON-REMER
Third District

NATHAN FLETCHER
Fourth District

JIM DESMOND
Fifth District

DATE: July 13, 2021

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TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT

AUTHORIZE COMPETITIVE SOLICITATIONS, SINGLE SOURCE PROCUREMENTS, AND AMENDMENT TO EXTEND EXISTING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES CONTRACT (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

The County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) Behavioral Health Services (BHS) department provides a comprehensive array of community-based mental health and substance use disorder services through contracts with local public and private agencies to vulnerable populations, including individuals who are experiencing homelessness, individuals with justice involvement, and children and youth with complex behavioral health conditions.

Approval of today's recommended actions authorizes competitive solicitations, single source procurements, and amendment to extend an existing contract, to support critical behavioral health services.

Today's action supports the County's *Live Well San Diego* vision by ensuring access to services, promoting health and well-being in children, adults, and families, and encouraging self-sufficiency, which together promote a region which is building better health, living safely, and thriving.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. In accordance with Section 401, Article XXIII of the County Administrative Code, authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting, to issue competitive solicitations for behavioral health services listed in Attachment A, and upon successful negotiations and determination of a fair and reasonable price, award contracts for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed; and to amend the contracts to reflect changes in program, funding or service requirements, subject to the availability of funds and the approval of the Agency Director, Health and Human Services Agency.

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2. In accordance with Board Policy A-87, Competitive Procurement, approve and authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting, to enter into negotiations with providers of Prevention and Early Intervention Services for Native Americans, and subject to successful negotiations and determination of a fair and reasonable price, enter into a single source contract for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed; and to amend the contracts to reflect changes in program, funding or service requirements, subject to the availability of funds and the approval of the Agency Director, Health and Human Services Agency.
3. In accordance with Board Policy A-87, Competitive Procurement, and Administrative Code Section 401, authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting to negotiate, and upon successful negotiations, amend contract 559918 with Public Consulting Group to extend the contract term through June 30, 2023 and up to an additional six months, if needed, subject to the availability of funds; and to amend the contract as required to reflect changes to services and funding allocations, subject to the approval of the Agency Director, Health and Human Services Agency.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Behavioral Health Services (BHS) serves as the specialty mental health plan for Medi-Cal eligible residents within San Diego County with serious mental illness, and the service delivery system for Medi-Cal eligible residents with substance use disorder care needs. These individuals and families often struggle disproportionately with social and economic factors that may negatively impact their behavioral health. These factors, referred to as the social determinants of health, are rooted in inequitable distribution of resources.

As a steward of public health for the region, BHS must ensure that the services offered through County-operated and contracted programs address the social determinants of health by being accessible, capable of meeting the linguistic and cultural needs of a diverse population, and equitably distributed to the individuals, families, and communities most in need. BHS utilizes a population health approach, along with evidence-based practices, robust data analysis, and stakeholder input from consumers, community-based providers, healthcare organizations and others to identify need and design services that are impactful, equitable, and yield meaningful outcomes for clients.

If approved, today's action will award and extend contracts for services that improve access to treatment and care for some of the region's most vulnerable, under-served, and under-resourced sub-populations. These include specialty outpatient services for commercially sexually exploited children, rural communities, LGBTQ+ youth, Native Americans, foster youth, and veterans, among others. These integrated services will reduce health system silos, and improve access to care, to mitigate the social determinants of health through a comprehensive continuum of behavioral health services.

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FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2021-23 Operational Plan in the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, today’s recommendations will result in approximate costs and revenue of \$800,000 to \$1,200,000 in Fiscal Year 2021-22 and \$55,500,000 to \$73,700,000 in Fiscal Year 2022-23. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

Recommendation #1: Authorization to Issue Competitive Solicitations

If approved, this request will result in estimated costs and revenue ranging from \$700,000 to \$1,000,000 in Fiscal Year 2021-22 and \$53,600,000 to \$71,200,000 in Fiscal Year 2022-23. The funding sources are Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), Short Doyle Medi-Cal, Substance Abuse Block Grant, Drug Medi-Cal, Tobacco, General Funds, and Realignment. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

Recommendation #2: Authorization to Issue Single Source Contracts

If approved, this request will result in estimated costs and revenue ranging from \$1,600,000 to \$2,100,000 in Fiscal Year 2022-23. The funding sources are MHSA, Substance Abuse Block Grant, General Funds, and Realignment. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

Recommendation #3: Authorization to Extend and Amend Contract

If approved, this request will result in estimated costs and revenue from \$100,000 to \$200,000 in Fiscal Year 2021-22 and \$300,000 to \$400,000 in Fiscal Year 2022-23. The funding source is Realignment. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ADVISORY BOARD STATEMENT

The Behavioral Health Advisory Board did not have a scheduled meeting in July 2021, the recommended actions will be presented as an informational item at their next regularly scheduled meeting on August 5, 2021.

BACKGROUND

The County of San Diego (County), Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) Behavioral Health Services (BHS) department provides a comprehensive array of community-based mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) services through contracts with local public and private agencies to vulnerable populations, including individuals who are experiencing homelessness, individuals with justice involvement, and children and youth with complex behavioral health conditions.

Approval of today’s recommended actions authorizes competitive solicitations, single source procurements, and amendment to extend an existing behavioral health services contract, to sustain critical behavioral health services.

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These recommended actions support the continuation of critical work to advance the ongoing transformation of the Behavioral Health Continuum of Care. All contracts are contingent upon the availability of funding, successful negotiations, and determination of a fair and reasonable price.

Recommendation #1: Authorization to Issue Competitive Solicitations

If this recommendation is approved, competitive solicitations will be issued and contracts will be awarded for the critical behavioral health services, as outlined below:

a. Behavioral Health Training and Technical Assistance

On August 4, 2015 (4), the Board authorized the procurement of the Behavioral Health Training (BHT) program designed to provide a variety of system-wide education and trainings for staff from County-operated and County-contracted behavioral health programs in San Diego County. These trainings increase knowledge and skills and are provided in multiple formats, including instructor-led classes, webinars, e-Learnings, and conferences. Continuing education credit is provided for licensed clinical personnel. The BHT incorporates concepts that align with key HHS and County initiatives; these include trainings on cultural competency, behavioral health and primary care integration, Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS), cross-sector behavioral health, and trauma informed systems integration. Services are provided countywide. Annually, approximately 15,000 e-Learnings or webinars are completed by County employees and contracted staff. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-20, the program provided in-person training to approximately 786 County employees and contracted staff. Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the program transitioned to a virtual format providing live training to approximately 514 County employees and County-contracted staff. The annual cost of this program typically ranges from \$1.4-1.9 million.

Today's action requests the Board to authorize a competitive solicitation for the procurement of Behavioral Health Training and Technical Assistance services for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

b. Food Services for the San Diego County Psychiatric Hospital

On October 4, 2016 (1), the Board authorized the procurement of the Food Services program for the San Diego County Psychiatric Hospital (SDCPH) to provide healthy/nutritional meals to patients with mental health conditions being treated in the facility. The Food Services program creates a non-institutional, patient-friendly atmosphere that provides full meal services, to include snacks for adult patients being treated at SDCPH. Services include the preparation, delivery and serving of three meals per day as well as evening snacks and all physician prescribed snacks for an average daily census of 81 adult patients (age 18 years and older). Medical diets are verified by the registered dietitian.

SDCPH is comprised of psychiatric inpatient units, an outpatient psychiatric stabilization unit, and a psychiatric emergency unit. In FY 2019-20, the program served a total of 88,206 meals to 4,655 unduplicated patients. On average, 7,350 meals are served per month.

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SDCPH serves individuals countywide. The annual cost of this program typically ranges from \$0.9 – \$1.2 million.

Today’s action requests the Board to authorize a competitive solicitation for the procurement of the Food Services for SDCPH program for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

c. Integrated Behavioral Health and Primary Care Services in Rural Communities

On August 4, 2015 (4), the Board authorized the procurement of integrated behavioral health/primary care Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) and Community Services and Support (CSS) services for children, adolescents, Transition Aged Youth (TAY), and adults/older adults in rural community clinic(s) in the East and North Inland areas. This is an outpatient program working in partnerships with various primary care clinics utilizing a Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) model to identify persons at risk for behavioral health issues to increase the capacity of behavioral health services in the rural communities. Services also include behavioral health consultations, mental health and substance use education, short-term prevention services and community referrals to support early intervention and treatment of uncomplicated serious mental illness (SMI), co-occurring SMI and/or SUD. Treatment services are strength-based, time limited and embrace the concepts of resilience and recovery for adults and children with severe emotional disturbance, and their families. This program provides integrated behavioral health services at primary care settings to engage the most underserved and hard to reach individuals in the rural communities in the East and North Inland HHSA Regions of the County. In FY 2019-20, the program served 811 unduplicated adult clients and 118 unduplicated children/family clients. The annual cost of this program typically ranges from \$1.1 - \$1.5 million.

Today’s action requests the Board to authorize a competitive solicitation for the procurement of Integrated Behavioral Health and Primary Care Services in Rural Communities for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

d. Integrated Health System Navigation Services and Support

On January 7, 2014 (9), the Board authorized the procurement of the Integrated Health System Navigation Services and Support program. The program provides comprehensive, peer-based care coordination, brief treatment, and whole health system navigation support to adults with mental health and/or substance use issues who present for treatment at the San Diego County Psychiatric Hospital (SDCPH) and other community providers in San Diego County. The programs' family/peer specialists and substance use counselors assess the needs of the client and/or family to provide individualized support and connection to providers and resources within the community.

Services are provided at SDCPH and at four designated mental health clinics, and include: outreach, engagement, screenings, brief interventions, referrals, and case management to adults in the designated target population. Clients are connected to individualized treatment

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and social support services, which may include physical and behavioral healthcare, housing, food, bus passes, and other resources that foster resiliency and improve the client's whole health. The program's family/peer specialists provide support, education, and advocacy for family members of adults living with behavioral health conditions.

In FY 2019-20, the program served 4,066 individuals and over 436 of their enrolled participants were homeless upon intake. Additionally, the annual report showed significant improvements in physical health with a two percent reduction in the number of clients reporting severe physical symptoms and an 84 percent increase in the number of clients connected to a primary care provider. The annual report also showed significant improvements with regards to mental health and substance use needs as there was a 13 percent decrease in severe mental health symptoms as well as a 13 percent decrease in emergency room services related to mental and/or substance use issues from admission to follow up. The annual cost of this program typically ranges from \$2.1 - \$2.8 million.

Today's action requests the Board to authorize a competitive solicitation for the procurement of the Integrated Health System Navigation Services and Support program for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

e. Mental Health Outpatient Treatment Services for Children and Youth

i. Behavioral Health Services for Commercially Sexually Exploited Children

On October 4, 2016 (1), the Board authorized the procurement of the Behavioral Health Services for Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC), *I CARE* program. This program is designed to provide outpatient clinical and supportive services that focus on youth, adolescents, and young adults who live in San Diego County and are at risk of, or currently involved in commercial, sexual, exploitation and their families. It also provides services to their caregivers. Services include mental health services, life skills trainings, support groups, survivor lead trainings and groups, a drop-in center, crisis support and systems trainings.

CSEC is one of the fastest growing epidemics in our country as well as in the county. Although anyone can become a victim of human trafficking, a review of school, mental health, child welfare, and probation documents found that 80-95 percent of trafficked youth in California were known to Child Welfare Services (CWS). According to a three-year study funded by the Department of Justice and released on October 26, 2015 by Point Loma Nazarene University, the underground sex economy in San Diego County represents an estimated \$810 million in annual revenue and involves more than 100 area gangs. Data gathered from CWS in August of 2020 demonstrates that there is an increasing trend in the number of CSEC referrals that CWS received each fiscal year. From 256 in FY 2015-16, the number of CSEC referrals increased to 1,131 in FY 2018-19. In FY 2019-20, the *I CARE* program served 129 unduplicated clients. Services are provided countywide. The annual cost of this program typically ranges from \$0.8 – \$1.1 million.

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Today's action requests the Board to authorize a competitive solicitation for the procurement of the Behavioral Health Services for Commercially Sexually Exploited Children program for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

ii. Behavioral Health Services for LGBTQ+ Youth and Young Adults

On October 4, 2016 (1), the Board authorized the procurement of the Behavioral Health Services for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and/or Questioning (LGBTQ+) Youth and Young Adults, *Our Safe Place* program. This program is designed to assist youth, adolescents, young adults, and their caregivers who identify as LGBTQ+ and who could benefit from the outpatient clinical and supportive services as well as access to an LGBTQ+-affirming environment. Services include mental health treatment, referral, and linkage for assistance with medical needs, support services for caregivers and LGBTQ+ youth, drop-in centers, crisis support and systems trainings.

One of the most vulnerable populations, LGBTQ+ youth often suffer as a result of non-supportive or even hostile environments in their homes, schools, and communities. Research demonstrates that LGBTQ+ youth who do not have access to LGBTQ+-affirming community environments are at higher risk for negative outcomes, including early high-school dropout, homelessness, negative mental health symptoms, increased drug and alcohol use, suicide and physical, emotional and/or sexual abuse. In FY 2019-20, 1,099 of the 6,868 clients aged 13 and older served by BHS identified as LGBTQ+ and other sexual orientation. Services are provided countywide. In FY 2019-20, the program served 209 unduplicated clients. The annual cost of this program typically ranges from \$1.3 - \$1.7 million.

Today's action requests the Board to authorize a competitive solicitation for the procurement of Behavioral Health Services for LGBTQ+ Youth and Young Adults program, for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

iii. Foster Family Agency Stabilization and Treatment Services

On October 4, 2016 (1), the Board authorized the procurement of Foster Family Agency Stabilization and Treatment (FFAST) Outpatient Children's Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS). The program provides outpatient services for youth residing in the County's Foster Family Agency (FFA) homes. FFAs are community-based non-profit organizations licensed by the California Department of Social Services to provide enhanced services to foster family homes. Children and youth in FFAs are placed through CWS, Regional Centers, or Juvenile Probation. These are children who are dependents or wards of the Juvenile Court and unable to be maintained in their own home or in a County licensed foster home. While FFAs receive additional services beyond those provided in a County foster home, mental health services are not directly provided through CWS, Regional Centers, or Juvenile Probation. The children and youth in FFAs may have emotional and mental health needs and in many cases, would otherwise be placed in group homes or other institutional settings. The SMHS provided

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through the FFAST program also includes the State mandated Therapeutic Foster Care (TFC) services, which is a short-term, intensive, highly coordinated, trauma informed and individualized SMHS for children and youth up to age 21 who have complex emotional and behavioral needs and who are placed with trained, intensely supervised, and supported TFC parents.

FFAST services are designed to support youth with high acuity needs to maintain current placement in a home or home-like setting and prevent need for a higher level of care. Services are provided countywide. In FY 2019-20, the program served a total of 220 unduplicated clients, of which 96 percent avoided psychiatric hospitalization or re-hospitalization. The annual cost of this program typically ranges from \$1.4 - \$1.9 million.

Today's action requests the Board to authorize a competitive solicitation for the procurement of the Foster Family Agency Stabilization and Treatment (FFAST) program for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

iv. Placement Stabilization Services at Polinsky Children's Center

On October 4, 2016 (1) the Board authorized the procurement of Placement Stabilization Services at Polinsky Children's Center (PCC). In collaboration with CWS, this program supports the mental health needs of children and youth placed at PCC after removal from parent, guardian, caregiver, or other current living situation. This program is designed to identify mental health needs of children and youth ages 6 to 17 at PCC to ensure proper interventions are in place. A comprehensive behavioral health assessment is completed to identify needs and strengths for ensuring that the needed services are in place during and after their stay at PCC. Services include assessment sessions, treatment planning, individual therapy, group therapy, rehabilitation services, case management and crisis intervention.

Most children and youth placed at PCC have experienced some form of trauma due to chronic abuse, exposure to violence or recent placement disruption. The Placement Stabilization Services program identifies and supports emotional and behavioral needs of children and youth in order to enhance stability. In FY 2019-20, the program served a total of 418 unduplicated clients. The annual cost of this program typically ranges from \$0.7 – \$0.9 million.

Today's action requests the Board to authorize a competitive solicitation for the procurement of Placement Stabilization Services at PCC for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

f. Older Adult Prevention and Early Intervention Services

On June 4, 2019 (10), the Board authorized the procurement of the Caregivers of Alzheimer's Disease and other Dementia Clients Support Services program. This program provides community-based outreach and support for individuals who are serving as

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caregivers to reduce symptoms of anxiety and depression for improved caregiver mental health. Under Administrative Code section 401, the Department of Purchasing and Contracting, issued a solicitation for Home Based Older Adult Services to provide home and community-based therapeutic counseling and education services to home-bound and socially isolated older adults age 60 and above who are at risk for depression, experiencing depression, and/or who are at risk of suicide. Additionally, the Department of Purchasing and Contracting issued a solicitation for Elder Multicultural Access and Support Services to deploy community health workers and peer liaisons to provide outreach, social engagement, and resource sharing with older adults/seniors with an emphasis to reach underserved and unserved populations.

In San Diego County, older adults and seniors with Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia as well as those who are experiencing symptoms of depression, social isolation and loneliness are considered a vulnerable population. These Older Adult PEI services will reduce the stigma of mental health and reduce symptoms that lead to clinical depression and anxiety among a targeted older adult population with the outcome of preventing institutionalization and improved quality of life including isolation reduction/engagement. As a result of this procurement, PEI services will be provided for older adult subpopulations including caregivers of Alzheimer's, other dementia, and other mental health conditions; older adults who are at-risk of experiencing social isolation, loneliness and disengagement from friends and family as result of the COVID-19 pandemic and other factors; and unserved and underserved cultural or ethnic populations experiencing or at-risk for mental health concerns.

PEI services will include but are not limited to, assessment for symptoms of depression, anxiety, and other mental health conditions, self-care, personal and social engagement and interaction activities, and physical activity. PEI services will also include outreach education and awareness through information dissemination, specialized one-on-one and/or group education and counseling, and the utilization of community health workers and peer liaisons to interact, engage, and serve older adults/seniors and their family members. These Older Adult PEI programs will incorporate evidence-based and/or best practice education curriculums to support the achievement of improved client mental health outcomes.

In FY 2019-20, the currently contracted three programs served 949 individuals through mental health therapeutic education and assessment services and reached 15,251 individuals by provision of outreach and prevention education services. The annual cost of these programs typically ranges from \$1.7 - \$2.3 million.

Today's action requests the Board to authorize a competitive solicitation for the procurement of Older Adult PEI services resulting in one or more contracts with an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

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g. Perinatal Outpatient Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services

On September 23, 2014 (9), the Board authorized the procurement of the Perinatal Outpatient Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment program. This program is designed to provide outpatient SUD treatment, recovery and ancillary services to women, pregnant and parenting women, and pregnant and parenting adolescent females, ages 15 and older with substance use conditions. Program participants learn and recover from SUD impacts through treatment groups, trauma-informed care, substance use education, skill development, case management and care coordination, employment and educational supports, and social milieu activities. Perinatal Outpatient SUD treatment services address screening for co-occurring mental health disorders and linkage to needed mental health services. Clinician services for children embedded in the program include developmental screening, parent education, and referrals for the children of enrolled clients. Services utilize best practices such as recovery residences, parenting classes, childcare services, peer support services, clinician services for children including developmental screening and mental health referrals, crisis intervention, outreach, engagement, treatment and recovery services, and relapse prevention. Treatment modalities include assessment, individual and group counseling, motivational interviewing and other evidence-based practices, case management and care coordination, as well as drug testing and support in securing safe and affordable housing.

Perinatal Outpatient SUD treatment services fulfill the California Department of Health Care Services' requirement for services that adhere to perinatal practice guidelines for SUD treatment for pregnant and parenting women seeking or referred to SUD treatment. These programs ensure access to quality SUD treatment services for perinatal clients in accordance with DMC-ODS, and the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant Perinatal Set-Aside from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Services are provided countywide. In FY 2019-20, the Perinatal Outpatient SUD Treatment program served a total of 986 unduplicated clients. The annual cost of this program typically ranges from \$11.0 – \$14.6 million.

Today's action requests the Board to authorize a competitive solicitation for the procurement of the Perinatal Outpatient SUD Treatment program for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

h. Positive Parenting Program

On August 4, 2015 (4), the Board authorized the procurement of the Positive Parenting Program (Triple P), a PEI program utilizing an evidence-based curriculum. Under Administrative Code section 401, the Department of Purchasing and Contracting, issued a solicitation for the Breaking Down Barriers contract which included program services for fathers to improve their parenting knowledge and skill set. The Triple P program reduces the risk of behavioral/emotional problems in young children of families including unserved and underserved communities of color (Asian, Black, Latino, and Pacific Islander). Services include specialized culturally and developmentally appropriate PEI services to promote social and emotional wellness for children, teens, and their families. This program will also provide additional focused PEI services to support the engagement, participation,

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and parenting skills for fathers with children up to age of 16, to reduce the impacts of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). This program utilizes an evidence-based curriculum and practice at Head Start and Early Head Start centers, other preschool settings, elementary schools, and community center locations throughout San Diego County.

The Clinical Child and Family Psychology Review journal found that Triple P reduces problem behavior in children and improves parents' wellbeing and parenting skills. Services are provided countywide. In FY 2019-20, Triple P served 7,960 unduplicated clients. For FY 2021-22, the estimated annual cost of this program will range from \$0.5 - \$0.7 million. The annual cost of this program typically ranges from \$1.1 - \$1.4 million.

Today's action requests the Board to authorize the competitive solicitation for the procurement of the Positive Parenting Program including an additional focused component for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

i. Psychiatric and Addiction Consultation and Family Support Program

On August 4, 2015 (4), the Board authorized the procurement of the Psychiatric and Addiction Consultation and Family Support Program to provide two distinct services. For Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), the contractor provides expedited access to psychiatric consultation for primary care practitioners regarding psychotropic medications and disease management of their patients. Psychiatric consultation is provided, on an as-needed basis, during normal business hours via telephone, email, and video chat. For pediatricians serving children with Medi-Cal, psychiatric consultation is also provided and includes additional supportive services for families. Services include parent education, referrals, and connections to care. The program provides psychiatric and substance use consultation for primary care, pediatric and obstetric providers who serve Medi-Cal or uninsured clients throughout San Diego County. In addition, it provides family support services to referred clients and/or their families to enhance their understanding of the client's behavioral healthcare needs and to assist in developing a recommended care plan in collaboration with the primary care provider.

The psychiatric and addiction consultation services for primary care, pediatric, and obstetric practitioners enhance the competence, confidence, and capacity of these practitioners in providing behavioral health screenings, early recognition, evaluation, and interventions when needed. This is especially important for children, youth, and families as this population may be referred to primary care to manage ongoing non-complex medication needs. In addition, the addiction consultation services enhance the competence and capacity of primary care practitioners with regards to medication assisted treatment (MAT) services for clients with specific substance use disorders. The family support services offer educational opportunities through community outreach and trainings regarding behavioral health issues as well as client referrals and linkages to relevant external resources and services as potential next steps for promoting wellness or recovery and action. In FY 2019-20, the program provided 509 psychiatric and/or addiction

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consultation services and 1,646 family support services. The annual cost of this program typically ranges from \$0.8 - 1.0 million.

Today's action requests the Board to authorize a competitive solicitation for the procurement of a Psychiatric and Addiction Consultation and Family Support Program for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

j. School Age Prevention and Early Intervention Services

On August 4, 2015 (4), the Board authorized the procurement of PEI school-age services. The School-Age PEI program serves children and youth who may be at risk of school failure; who are beginning to exhibit behavioral and emotional issues; who may be in stressed families and/or from underserved cultural populations. The program and services utilize the evidence-based curriculum, *The Incredible Years*. The program, in partnership with school districts, offers a family focused community education and outreach to promote wellness and healthy living choices that foster resiliency in children, families, and communities. Services include screening, early identification and early mental health wellness and social-emotional intervention for at-risk preschoolers and elementary age children at identified public schools.

According to research, learning and development are at their highest rate in the preschool years. Some children, due to conditions noticed at birth, special needs, or developmental delays which occur in the early years, risk missing some of the most important learning and developmental milestones. Early intervention significantly increases the child's ability to integrate in future social environments, including school, community, and ultimately employment. Children with higher levels of school readiness at age five are generally more successful in grade school, are less likely to drop out of high school, and earn more as adults, even after adjusting for differences in family background.

Since 2016, the program served 14,603 youth in small groups across 130 schools, 71 percent of whom demonstrated improved classroom behavior, as reported by individual teacher surveys. Services are provided in the North Coastal, North Inland, South, East, Central Southeast, and Central & North Central Regions. In FY 2019-20, the program served a total of 17,357 children and families. Of these, 15,909 children received classroom lessons on social emotional development; 3,196 children were served in small groups; and 1,330 adults were served in parent groups. The annual cost of this program typically ranges from \$5.7 - \$7.6 million.

Today's action requests the Board to authorize a competitive solicitation for the procurement of the School Age PEI program in all six regions, for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

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k. School Based Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention Program

On October 28, 2014 (9), the Board authorized the procurement of the Mental Health Services Act Three Year Program and Expenditure Plan: Fiscal Year 2014-2015 through Fiscal Year 2016 that included a PEI component to prevent mental illness from becoming severe and disabling that included a focus on suicide prevention and early intervention programs that serves middle and high school students, TAY through education, outreach services, screening, and referrals in schools. The School Based Suicide PEI program aims to prevent suicide by educating youth (7th through 12th grade) and their families on the risk factors of suicide and reducing the stigma around seeking help for themselves or others. Services include outreach to the community and community leaders; promoting education about mental health; providing engagement and training for school staff and faculty, students, and parents; outreach and engagement of parents; changing policies; implementing bullying prevention; and having in place a system of services designed to identify youth who need help before they attempt suicide.

This is a multi-level, evidence-based suicide PEI program that utilizes the public health model (PHM). The success of this PHM indicates that systemic interventions that change social norms about seeking help and institutionalization of training and/or education about suicide prevention can have substantial impact on reducing a range of adverse outcomes. Services are provided countywide. In FY 2019-20, the program served a total of 36,732 students, 611 staff, and 861 parents. The annual cost of this program typically ranges from \$1.4 - \$1.8 million.

Today's action requests the Board to authorize a competitive solicitation for the procurement of the School Based Suicide PEI program for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

l. Temporary Professional Staffing Services

On October 4, 2016 (1), the Board authorized the procurement of temporary medical, therapy and dietary staffing. Services provide temporary professional medical staffing to ensure mandated service level requirements are met at various 24-hour facilities. Temporary staff are also utilized to meet ongoing and emergency programmatic needs. These staff serve county residents who access services or reside at various HHSA facilities including: Edgemoor Distinct Part Skilled Nursing Facility (DPSNF), SDCPH, PCC, and Public Health units. Service classifications vary by location and include licensed nurse and nurse assistants, social workers; physical therapist; recreational therapists; mental health technicians and aides; medical records specialist; epidemiologists; along with laboratory staff and managers. Services also provide dietary staffing categories such as cooks, food service workers, dietitians, and nutritionists. Staff are intended to fill in for no more than 90-days at one assignment.

HHSA uses temporary institutional staffing to ensure mandated service level requirements are met at various 24-hour facilities, public health facilities, and other public facing units. Accessing temporary professional services gives HHSA the ability to quickly ramp up critical services and then quickly scale down when operations normalize following an

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emergency. The services were utilized during the COVID-19 emergency to staff various existing and new public health settings where demand grew immensely in a short time span. Services are provided countywide. In FY 2020-21, the program provided staffing for 210 programs including three units with residential clients. The annual cost of this program typically ranges from \$21.2 - \$28.2 million.

Today's action requests the Board to authorize a competitive solicitation for the procurement of the Temporary Professional Staffing Services for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

m. Veterans and Family Outreach and Education Services

On January 7, 2014 (9), the Board authorized the procurement of Veterans and Families Outreach and Education services for veterans, active-duty military, reservists, National Guard, and their families (VMRGF). This program provides peer-based services designed to assist all military, veterans and their families who could benefit from mental health PEI services. Services include countywide outreach and education, 24-hour, 365 days peer helpline staffed by veterans and military/veteran spouses to provide support, information, referrals, resources, and linkages to needed services to address the mental health conditions that impact VMRGF. The program also provides educational training to service providers of the VMRGF community designed to promote greater understanding. Services also include outreach and education/training to veteran organizations; the justice system diversion services to consider behavioral health treatment programs in lieu of incarceration and peer navigators providing transitioning services for individuals and families leaving the military; and case management providing brief supportive counseling, assistance in filing Veteran's Affairs claims, warm hand offs to referral services and proactive follow-ups for one year.

In San Diego County, there are more than 250,000 military members, veterans, and family members, which warrants the need for these services. Services are provided countywide. In FY 2019-20, the program served a total of 2,056 unduplicated veterans and/or military members and an additional 1,755 unduplicated family members. This program utilizes peers who are former military and military family members to provide outreach, supportive services, and relevant linkages to VMRGF to prevent mental health challenges, resulting in a 74 percent successful linkage rate to needed services. For FY 2021-22, the estimated annual cost of this program will range from \$0.2 - \$0.3 million. The annual cost of this program typically ranges from \$1.0 - \$1.3 million.

Today's action requests the Board to authorize a competitive solicitation for the procurement of the Veterans and Families Outreach and Education Services program for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

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Recommendation #2: Authorization to Execute Single Source Contracts

Prevention and Early Intervention Services for Native Americans

On March 11, 2014 (10), the Board authorized the single source procurement of the PEI services for Native Americans with the Dream Weaver Consortium. The Dream Weaver Consortium is a partnership with several Native American health clinics that join cultural practices with evidence-based practices to address mental health and SUD prevention. The County contracts with the following health clinics as part of the Dream Weaver Consortium: Indian Health Council, Inc. (IHC), San Diego American Indian Health Center (SDAIHC), and Southern Indian Health Council (SIHC).

The Dream Weaver Consortium programs provide behavioral health PEI services to all age groups through intergenerational activities to Native American populations in San Diego County. These local federal health clinics offer specialized culturally designed health and behavioral health integrated PEI services to meet the needs of Native American populations. Services are provided on reservations and in urban areas and include education and outreach at community events, cultural and social gatherings, and health clinics. The programs provide information on prevention and treatment services available and promote wellness activities in Native American/Alaska Native communities and increases involvement in child abuse prevention activities. These programs increase community involvement and education through services designed and delivered by Native American communities. The Native American/Alaska Native population is historically underserved and the significant impact of historical trauma and other factors on health validates an increased need for PEI services. In FY 2019-20, the Dream Weaver Consortium served a total of 6,196 unduplicated clients. The annual cost of this program typically ranges from \$1.6 - \$2.1 million.

This program qualifies for single source procurements to provide these services based on Section 1D-3 of Board Policy A-87 Competitive Procurement. The procurement is for services from a provider with unique knowledge, skill, or ability not available from other sources. These local Federally Qualified Health Centers offer specialized, culturally-designed health and behavioral health integrated services to meet needs of the Native American population throughout rural communities and urban cities in San Diego County. IHC is a consortium of nine tribes dedicated to the continual betterment of Indian Health, wholeness, and well-being. With a main facility located adjacent to the Rincon reservation in Pauma Valley and the Santa Ysabel Community Health Center located on the Santa Ysabel Reservation, IHC provides a full spectrum of on-site and outreach services and programs to the North San Diego County reservations of Inaja-Cosmit, La Jolla, Los Coyotes, Mesa Grande, Pala, Pauma, Rincon, San Pasqual, and Santa Ysabel. Similarly, SIHC provides a full spectrum of health services and serves a seven-member tribal consortium which includes Barona, Campo, Ewiiapaayp, Jamul, La Posta, Manzanita, and Viejas. SDAIHC is a patient-centered health home that provides comprehensive medical, dental, behavioral health, and community wellness services that are available to all San Diegans including Native American/Alaska Native individuals and youth center services for Native American/Alaska Native youth and transition age youth living in urban communities in San Diego County.

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Today's action requests the Board to authorize single source contracts with IHC, SDAIHC, and SIHC as members of the Dream Weaver Consortium for an initial term of up to one year, with four option years, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

Recommendation #3: Authorization to Extend and Amend Contract

Behavioral Health Consultant Services (559918 Public Consulting Group, Inc.)

On September 15, 2020 (13), the Board authorized to extend the Behavioral Health Consultant Services contract through December 31, 2021 to facilitate follow up actions in response to the Board Conference: Caring for People in Psychiatric Crisis in San Diego County, convened on October 30, 2018. Consultant services provide project management for system-wide improvement regarding behavioral health and the healthcare systems. Consultant services include providing subject matter expertise on innovative approaches and national best practices in integrated care and care coordination across sectors to address the health and social determinants of health needs for people with behavioral health issues. Services include project management support on stakeholder engagement activities, data collection and analysis; needs assessment activities; best practice research; implementation planning; population health analysis, and financial analysis. Services also include development and assistance with the implementation of service interventions across behavioral health priority areas of focus. There is a continued need for consultant services to address hospital rates and cost modeling for current BHS Continuum of Care projects countywide. The annual cost of this program typically ranges from \$0.3 - \$0.4 million.

Today's action requests the Board to authorize an extension of the current contract with Public Consulting Group, Inc. through June 30, 2023, and up to an additional six months, if needed.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO STRATEGIC PLAN

Today's proposed actions support the Building Better Health and Living Safely Initiatives in the County of San Diego's (County) 2021-2026 Strategic Plan as well as the County's *Live Well San Diego* vision, by ensuring that vulnerable populations of individuals with mental illness and substance use disorders continue to have access to a comprehensive continuum of behavioral health services administered through accessible behavioral health programs.

Respectfully submitted,



HELEN N. ROBBINS-MEYER
Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)

Attachment A - Behavioral Health Services Related to Recommendation #1

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AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET

REQUIRES FOUR VOTES: Yes No

WRITTEN DISCLOSURE PER COUNTY CHARTER SECTION 1000.1 REQUIRED

Yes No

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:

September 15, 2020 (13), Authorization for Amendments to Extend Existing Behavioral Health Services Contracts, Executive Revenue Agreement, and Amend a Memoranda of Understanding; June 4, 2019 (10), Behavioral Health Services Authorization for Competitive Solicitations, Single Source Procurements, and Amendment to Revenue Agreement; October 4, 2016 (1), Health and Human Services Agency Authorization for Competitive Solicitations, Extension of Contracts, and Single Source Procurements; August 4, 2015 (4), Behavioral Health Services Authorization for Competitive Solicitations, Extension of Contracts, and Single Source Procurements; October 28, 2014 (9), Mental Health Services Act Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan: Fiscal Year 2014-15 Through Fiscal Year 2016-17; September 23, 2014 (9), Behavioral Health Services Authorization for Competitive Solicitations and Extension of Contracts; March 11, 2014 (10), Behavioral Health Services Authorization for Sole Source Procurements for Prevention and Early Intervention Services for Native Americans; January 7, 2014 (9), Behavioral Health Services Authorization for Competitive Solicitations and Extension of Contracts.

BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:

A-87 – Competitive Procurement

BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:

Introduction: Single source contracts for the procurement of Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Services for Native Americans with Dream Weaver Consortium health clinics Indian Health Council, Inc. (IHC), San Diego American Indian Health Center (SDAIHC), and Southern Indian Health Council (SIHC), is requested. The Dream Weaver Consortium programs qualifies for single source procurements to provide these services pursuant to Board Policy A-87 Competitive Procurement, Section 1D-3: The procurement is for services from a provider with unique knowledge, skill, or ability not available from other sources.

Services, Term Period, and Estimated Value: Upon approval of this request, the Dream Weaver Consortium programs will provide behavioral health PEI services to all age groups through intergenerational activities to Native American populations in San Diego County. The contract term and estimated value will be up to \$2.1 million in FY 2022-23 and up to 2.3 million each option year through FY 2026-27.

Benefits to the County of San Diego: The County of San Diego (County) is committed to building better health, living safely, and thriving by ensuring access to services, promoting health and well-being in children, adults, and families, and encouraging self-sufficiency. The Dream Weaver Consortium programs increase community involvement and education through services designed and delivered by Native American communities. The Native American/Alaska

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Native population is historically underserved and the significant impact of historical trauma and other factors on health validates an increased need for PEI services.

Why Procurement Qualifies for Exception: An exception to the competitive procurement policy is being sought, pursuant to Board Policy A-87, Competitive Procurement, Section 1D-3: The procurement is for services from a provider with unique knowledge, skill, or ability not available from other sources. The Dream Weaver Consortium is a partnership with several Native American health clinics that join cultural practices with evidence-based practices to address mental health and SUD prevention.

Fair and Reasonable Price: Pricing is determined fair and reasonable based on pricing for same or similar services proposed for the provision of other County PEI services and on the knowledge and skills of the contract incumbent.

MANDATORY COMPLIANCE:
N/A

ORACLE AWARD NUMBER(S) AND CONTRACT AND/OR REQUISITION NUMBER(S):
559918

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Health and Human Services Agency

OTHER CONCURRENCE(S): Department of Purchasing and Contracting

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