



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
**HHSA**  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY



**LIVE WELL**  
SAN DIEGO

## **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD ACTION ITEM - APRIL 5, 2018**

### **LOCUM TENENS TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL STAFFING BOARD LETTER**

On April 17, 2018 the Board of Supervisors will consider an item requesting authorization for Behavioral Health Services to extend and increase current temporary professional staffing contracts to ensure continuous services. Temporary staffing in the medical field is referred to as locum tenens. It will also authorize the competitive procurement of future locum tenens services.

The County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency utilizes temporary staff to fill vacancies until permanent hires are made, or for vacancies of clinical positions that are considered difficult to fill due to a limited pool of qualified individuals. Specifically, contracts with temporary staffing agencies for psychiatrist, medical doctor and nurse practitioner positions assist whenever there are vacancies at the San Diego County Psychiatric Hospital, Edgemoor Distinct Part Skilled Nursing Facility and County-operated Behavioral Health Services clinics to maintain continuity of services for the residents of San Diego County.

These proposed actions, if approved, will authorize the Director of the Department of Purchasing and Contracting to negotiate an increase to the annual funding and extend the term of the current locum tenens contracts to ensure continuous services. It will also authorize the competitive procurement of future locum tenens services.

**It is THEREFORE, staff's recommendation that your Board support the request to authorize the Director of the Department of Purchasing and Contracting to negotiate an increase to the annual funding and extend the term of the current locum tenens contracts, and authorize the competitive procurement of future contracts.**