



San Bernardino County

Legislation Text

File #: 2406, Agenda Item #: 31

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

June 23, 2020

FROM

VERONICA KELLEY, Director, Department of Behavioral Health

SUBJECT

Amendments to contracts for Foster Family Agency - Mental Health Services program

RECOMMENDATION(S)

Approve Amendment No. 2, effective July 1, 2020, to the following contracts for the Foster Family Agency - Mental Health Services program, updating standard contract language, exercising the final one-year extension option, and increasing the total aggregate contract amount by \$3,958,905, from \$13,835,620 to \$17,794,525, for the total contract period of July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2021:

1. Aspiranet, Contract No. 16-524
2. ChildNet Youth and Family Services, Inc., Contract No. 16-525
3. Greater Hope Foundation for Children, Inc., Contract No. 16-528
4. Koinonia Family Services, Contract, No. 16-529
5. Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services, Contract No. 16-530
6. Seneca Family of Agencies, Contract No. 16-532
7. Trinity Youth Services, Contract No. 16-533
8. Walden Family Services, Contract No. 16-534

(Presenter: Veronica Kelley, Director, 388-0801)

COUNTY AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Provide for the Health and Social Services Needs of County Residents.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This item does not impact Discretionary General Funding (Net County Cost). The increase of \$3,958,905 to the total aggregate amount for Foster Family Agency - Mental Health Services program (FFA-MHS) will be utilized to continue Therapeutic Foster Care (TFC) and Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services (Medi-Cal SMHS) in 2020-21. These services are funded by Medi-Cal Federal Financial Participation, 2011 Realignment, and Children and Family Services (CFS) funding. Adequate appropriation and revenue have been included in the Department of Behavioral Health's (DBH) 2020-21 budget.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

FFA-MHS is a program that serves children/youth who are Dependents or Wards of the Court and placed with a FFA for residential services. Medi-Cal SMHS provides comprehensive and preventive health services, including specialty mental health services, to Medi-Cal beneficiaries under the age of 21 who have full scope

Medi-Cal eligibility; TFC is a required (Katie A. Settlement) Medi-Cal SMHS that provides intensive and frequent mental health support in a family environment to children/youth. Upon approval of the recommended amendments, DBH anticipates in 2020-21, FFA-MHS services will be provided to approximately 369 children/youth, at an estimated cost of \$10,728 per child/youth.

DBH is responsible for providing mental health and/or substance use disorder services to San Bernardino County residents who are experiencing major mental illness and/or substance use disorders. An integral part of the service delivery system consists of County operated and contracted service providers delivering a variety of mental health treatment services, including specialized services for children/youth.

DBH and CFS are respectively responsible for meeting the mental health and residential treatment needs of children/youth in their care. Through a variety of programs, DBH and CFS have collaborated to provide an appropriate alternative to residential placement and keep children/youth with their family. However, for some children/youth the level of need is high enough that placement with a FFA is needed.

Core services are provided by FFAs to children/youth and their families that encompass community services; physical, behavioral, and mental health support services; access to services, including specialty mental health services; educational, life, and social support; transitional support services for permanent residency; services for transitional-aged youth and minor dependents; and trauma-informed practices, support, and treatment services. TFC is short-term, intensive, highly coordinated, trauma-informed, and individualized intervention provided by a TFC resource parent to a child or youth who has complex emotional and behavioral needs. The purpose of TFC is to help children/youth step down from a Short-Term Residential Treatment Program, or maintain their placement with a resource family. FFAs are required to have a Mental Health Certification from the California Department of Health Care Services.

PROCUREMENT

On June 28, 2016 (Item No. 21), as the result of a formal procurement, the Board of Supervisors (Board) approved 12 contracts to provide FFA Mental Health Services, which included the contracts in the Recommendation, in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$8,876,715, for the period of July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019, with two one-year extension options contingent upon funding and contractor performance. Since the start of the FFA-MHS program on July 1, 2016, 10 agencies completed trainings on Medi-Cal Certification, service delivery, documentation and billing processes. Due to some agencies deciding to no longer provide services, there are currently eight agencies providing FFA-MHS program services.

On February 12, 2019 (Item No. 16), the Board approved Amendment No. 1 to the contracts in the Recommendation, adding the TFC service component, increasing the total aggregate contract amount by \$4,958,905 from \$8,876,715 to \$13,835,620, and exercising the first one-year extension option extending contracts through June 30, 2020.

Amendment No. 2 to the contracts will allow DBH to exercise the final extension option and continue FFA-MHS program services through June 30, 2021. A new procurement for these services will be conducted during 2020-21. Contractor performance will continue to be monitored by DBH on a regular basis to ensure compliance standards are met.

REVIEW BY OTHERS

This item has been reviewed by Behavioral Health Contracts (Ellayna Hoatson, Contracts Supervisor, 388-0869) on May 13, 2020; County Counsel (Dawn Martin, Deputy County Counsel, 387-5455) on June 1, 2020; Finance (Christopher Lange, Administrative Analyst, 386-8393) on June 3, 2020; and County Finance and Administration (Tanya Bratton, Deputy Executive Officer, 388-0332) on June 3, 2020.