

MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Adult System of Care

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H.
Placer County Health Officer and Director of Health & Human Services
Maureen F. Bauman, Director of Adult System of Care

DATE: December 8, 2009

SUBJECT: Contract Employee Agreement with Blair Romer, M.D. for Psychiatric Services

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve a contract employee agreement with Blair Romer, M.D. as staff psychiatrist from January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 with direct compensation of \$159,998, for a total compensation package not to exceed \$188,963, and authorize the Chairman to sign subsequent amendments up to 10 percent of the original contract amount. This amount reflects the total cost of compensation, benefits, and employer payroll contribution with the amount remaining the same as last year. The required County General Fund contribution for this contract is \$56,689. These costs are included in the Department's FY 2009-10 Final Budget.

BACKGROUND:

The county is mandated to provide mental health services to persons in severe psychiatric distress. In meeting the mandate, the Adult System of Care provides outpatient mental health services to 1,775 persons in severe psychiatric distress. Dr. Romer is a seasoned practitioner of these services, who is also available to provide critical after-hours, on-call service for six weeks per year. He will provide approximately 2,000 hours of clinical service to the Adult System of Care with his combination of day and after-hour services. His extensive experience continues to benefit the Placer residents receiving outclient mental health and crisis services.

The staff psychiatrists' salaries have been frozen since a 2006 salary survey was conducted in conjunction with Personnel and the County Executive Office (CEO), and it was determined that these specialized positions were appropriately compensated. In addition, this contract includes language to apply any wage and/or benefit changes such as the FY 2009-10 mandatory time off agreement. The total contract amount has remained the same.

A recent Request for Proposals (RFP) solicited proposals for operation of our Psychiatric Health Facility, which included psychiatry staff as part of the program. The analysis and resulting awards of these services affirm the Department's current approach in contracting with psychiatrists as the means to achieve the highest quality, cost effective services.

Personnel, County Counsel, and CEO's Office have reviewed this contract, and all are fully supportive of this approach.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total compensation for this agreement is \$188,963. Funding for these services includes \$132,274 in Federal and State funds, and \$56,689 in County General Funds. These costs are included in the Department's FY 2009-10 Final Budget.

This agreement is on file with the Clerk of the Board for review.

