



**MEMORANDUM**  
**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH**  
County of Placer

TO: Board of Supervisors

DATE: March 30, 2021

FROM: Robert L. Oldham, MD, MSHA, Director of Health and Human Services

SUBJECT: Contracts for Healthy Brain Initiative Services

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**ACTION REQUESTED**

1. Approve an agreement with Seniors First to provide services to support the aging population in line with the Healthy Brain Initiative in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 for the period of April 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign the agreement with Risk Management and County Counsel concurrence, and sign subsequent amendments up to \$5,000, consistent with the agreement's subject matter and scope of work with Risk Management and County Counsel concurrence.
2. Approve an agreement with Placer Independent Resource Services to provide services to support the aging population in line with the Healthy Brain Initiative in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 for the period of April 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign the agreement with Risk Management and County Counsel concurrence, and sign subsequent amendments up to \$5,000, consistent with the agreement's subject matter and scope of work with Risk Management and County Counsel concurrence.
3. Approve an agreement with Placer County Sheriff to provide Project LifeSaver services in an amount not to exceed \$27,295 for the period of April 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign the agreement with Risk Management and County Counsel concurrence, and sign subsequent amendments up to \$2,729, consistent with the agreement's subject matter and scope of work with Risk Management and County Counsel concurrence.
4. Approve an agreement with Auburn Police Department to provide Project LifeSaver services in an amount not to exceed \$10,754 for the period of April 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign the agreement with Risk Management and County Counsel concurrence, and sign subsequent amendments up to \$1,075, consistent with the agreement's subject matter and scope of work with Risk Management and County Counsel concurrence.
5. Approve an agreement with Lincoln Police Department to provide Project LifeSaver services in an amount not to exceed \$8,613 for the period of April 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign the agreement with Risk Management and County Counsel concurrence, and sign subsequent amendments up to \$861, consistent with the agreement's subject matter and scope of work with Risk Management and County Counsel concurrence.

**BACKGROUND**

Placer County Health and Human Services' Public Health division was awarded a new grant (July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022) from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) that focuses on creating dementia-friendly communities within Placer County.

Placer is an aging community, with 80,813 residents over the age of 65 in 2020. The county's senior population will surge to over 120,000 residents by 2030, according to the California Department of Finance forecasts – which will account for 26% of the total estimated population. From 2003-2017, the number of deaths in Placer County from Alzheimer's increased 162%, making it the third-leading cause of death.

Alzheimer's is a progressive brain disorder that damages and eventually destroys brain cells, leading to a loss of memory, thinking and other brain functions. Those who are diagnosed with Alzheimer's often see a

slow decline of cognitive abilities and will require support to be able to complete their day-to-day functions. Alzheimer's Disease not only impacts the individual, but also their loved ones and caretakers. Caring for a person with Alzheimer's is extremely taxing on the caregiver as the care provided is more personal and intrusive compared to other diseases, this results in diminished health outcomes for the caregivers themselves. More than 60 percent of Alzheimer's and dementia caregivers rate the emotional stress of caregiving as very high, with many reporting depression and anxiety.

The Placer County Healthy Brain Initiative has embarked on a collaborative effort to increase community supports so that residents with Alzheimer's and other age-related brain dementias may lead fulfilling lives and remain engaged and independent for as long as possible. Additionally, the program will focus on providing increased support and resources to families and caregivers. By partnering with Placer County agencies including, but not limited to, care facilities for the elderly, transportation, community-based organizations, enforcement agencies, and the Placer County Adult System of Care, the program will ensure that all sectors of the community are engaged and mobilized in this effort.

Project LifeSaver is one component of the Healthy Brain Initiative's focus as it serves as the premier search and rescue operation utilized by public safety agencies. It is strategically designed for "at risk" individuals who are prone to the life-threatening behavior of wandering. Project LifeSaver is a personalized radiofrequency tool used in collaboration with law enforcement and caretakers. The Placer County Healthy Brain Initiative is launching a pilot program with Project Lifesaver to assess the impact it may have on Placer County residents most likely to wander.

In an effort to serve our 65+ population, as well as Placer's most vulnerable and rural communities, the Placer County Sheriff's Office, Auburn Police Department, and Lincoln Police Department were selected to be this year's Project Lifesaver funding recipients. These three agencies serve approximately 74% of the County's population aged 65 and over. They also cover the largest geographic area within the county, despite having the smallest population per square mileage, resulting in a greater amount of unmonitored open space where individuals may wander.

By means of these contracts, the agencies will plan, purchase Project LifeSaver Starter Package, and implement the program within each jurisdiction. The "at risk" individuals in our community, who meet the eligibility requirements, will be fitted with a device (bracelet) that would allow law enforcement to track them should they become lost. Law enforcement agencies will be equipped with locating devices that utilize radio waves to locate the transmitters that the program clients are issued. This collaborative effort between Public Health and the law enforcement agencies is one of many joint efforts to positively impact the health and safety of our vulnerable community members. Following the implementation and evaluation of the pilot program, the Placer County Healthy Brain Initiative hopes to partner with Placer's remaining law enforcement agencies, contingent upon funding availability.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

These agreements are 100% funded through the Healthy Brain Initiative contract with the California Department of Public Health.

The agreements are on file with the Clerk of the Board for review.