

MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Children's 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
Richard S. Knecht, Director of Children's System of Care

DATE: June 24, 2008

SUBJECT: Contracts for Psychiatric Services with Mai Nguyen, M.D. and Robert Karsh, M.D.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve two contract employee agreements to provide psychiatric services in the Children's System of Care:

- a. An agreement with Mai Nguyen, M.D. from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 with direct compensation of \$125,078 for a total compensation package of \$148,125,
- b. An agreement with Robert Karsh, M.D. from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 with direct compensation of \$152,493 for a total compensation package of \$180,877, and
- c. Authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign these agreements and subsequent amendments up to 10% of the original contract amounts. The combined General Fund contribution for these contracts is \$145,111. These costs are reflected in the department's 2008/09 Proposed Budget.

BACKGROUND:

Each year, CSOC physicians provide intensive psychiatric and medication support to over 225 children. These contracts represent a reduction of nearly 20 hours per week from prior years, and continues the planned reduction of 25% of its psychiatric services as part of the Department's overall plan to address its budget.

Dr. Nguyen is a Board Certified psychiatrist who has worked with Placer County since 1997. Under this agreement, Dr. Nguyen will provide 1,040 hours of service to patients at the Kings Beach Community Clinic and other key locations.

Dr. Karsh started work with Placer County in 2006 and is Board Certified in child psychiatry. Under this agreement, Dr. Karsh will provide 1,248 hours of services to CSOC, representing an increase in hours due to the termination of other contracted psychiatry hours.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Direct compensation to each employee includes salary, benefits, expense reimbursements, retention bonuses, and on-call pay for a combined total of \$277,571 for these two psychiatrists. The total compensation package including employee compensation plus mandated payroll costs for these two positions is \$329,002, a decrease of \$142,788 (30.2%) from the cost of these services for the prior year. Funding for these services is derived from County General Fund (\$145,111) along with state and federal Medi-Cal (\$137,522) and SB 90 (\$46,369) allocations.

The following documents:

Contract Employees:

- 1. Dr. Robert Karsh**
- 2. Dr. Mai Nguyen**

is on file with Clerk of the Board
for BOS meeting:

June 24, 2008