

**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:** November 23, 2010

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

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**ACTION REQUESTED:**

Approve a contract employee agreement with Blair Romer, M.D. as staff psychiatrist from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 with direct compensation of \$130,460, for a total compensation package not to exceed \$185,881, and authorize the Chairman to sign subsequent amendments up to 10 percent of the original contract amount. Funding of \$65,059 in Federal and State funds, and a required County General Fund match of \$27,882 is included in the Department's FY 2010-11 Final Budget. The balance of funding will be budgeted in the FY 2011-12 Base Budget for the remainder of the contract term.

**BACKGROUND:**

Health and Human Services is mandated to utilize physicians with psychiatric specialization to provide specific medication services for adults and children receiving mental health services. These services are provided to residents throughout Placer County. These specialized providers are strategically placed in both health and mental health programs in order to most effectively provide services while also leveraging Federal and State revenues.

This contract renews the services of Dr. Romer at the Adult System of Care outpatient mental health clinic in Roseville. Dr. Romer was hired following a competitive process in 2008. He is a seasoned practitioner with extensive forensic experience and is Board Certified. He provides psychiatric services to Placer County residents placed in long-term locked facilities and provides mandated testimony at initiation and renewal conservatorship court hearings. Additionally, he will provide critical after-hours, on-call service four weeks per year.

The Adult System of Care has continued to prioritize services to those residents with the highest need to manage within available resources. Dr. Romer provides mandated specialty psychiatric services at the outpatient clinic for 555 residents with severe mental illness annually. Through this contract, Dr. Romer will provide 1,248 hours of services through a combination of his day and after-hours coverage. The psychiatrists' salaries have been frozen since a 2006 regional salary survey including both public and private sector employers was conducted and it was determined that these specialized positions were appropriately compensated.

The contract includes language to apply any wage and/or benefit changes such as the FY 2010-11 mandatory time off agreement. Personnel, County Counsel, and CEO's Office have reviewed this contract, and all are fully supportive of this approach. The total amount of this contract has been decreased by \$4,250 from the prior year resulting from a reduction in the number of on-call hours.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The total compensation for this agreement is \$185,881. Funding of \$65,059 in Federal and State funds, and a required County General Fund match of \$27,882 is included in the Department's FY 2010-11 Final Budget. The balance of funding will be budgeted in the FY 2011-12 Base Budget for the remainder of the contract term.

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

