

**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, L.C.S.W., Director of Adult System of Care

DATE: July 9, 2013

SUBJECT: Agreement with Sierra Mental Wellness Group for Emergency Mental Health Crisis Services

ACTION REQUESTED:

1. Cancel Request for Proposals No. 10247 for various mental health services, and
2. Approve an agreement with Sierra Mental Wellness Group for emergency psychiatric crisis services from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 in the amount not to exceed \$559,155 (\$240,437 net County cost) authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign subsequent amendments not to exceed \$49,999, consistent with the current agreement's subject matter and scope of work.

BACKGROUND:

On March 12, 2013, the Procurement Division released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for specialty mental health and child welfare services. As of the closing date of this RFP, only one response was received that would address the full scope of the County's needs. This response was from the incumbent provider, Sierra Mental Wellness Group. It has been recommended that the RFP be cancelled due to lack of response, a one-year contract for these services be negotiated with the incumbent, and that a new RFP with revised specifications be developed for release during FY 2013-14 in preparation for award in FY 2014-15.

Sierra Mental Wellness Group (SMWG) is a long-standing and vital agency partner with Placer County in the areas of outclient mental health services and emergency mental health crisis services. The mental health emergency psychiatric evaluations, pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code §5150 are mandated services to allow for individuals with mental illness to receive involuntary inpatient psychiatric services should they be deemed to be a danger to themselves, a danger to others or gravely disabled. This year, Placer County will be responsible for the completion of more than 2,600 crisis evaluations.

Services provided through this agreement include all activities related to the provision of mental health crisis responses in both western and eastern Placer County. SMWG provides mental health crisis response services in eastern Placer County, 24 hours a day, seven (7) days a week, 365 days a year, including weekends, holidays, and provides after hours coverage in western Placer County. This agreement supports an after-hours crisis response staff member to be on-site at Sutter Roseville Medical Center, where 71 percent of crisis evaluations are completed and a mobile crisis response staff member(s) to be dispatched to Sutter Auburn Faith Hospital, Tahoe Forest Hospital, Placer County Jail, and Juvenile Detention Facility when the need arises.

This agreement has received an increase of almost 9 percent (\$45,687) in funding from the previous FY 2012-13 amount of \$513,468 due to the need for additional crisis response and the increased cost for liability coverage associated with providing such services. The additional crisis response will be provided by an additional on-call response worker to be available to respond during identified critical hours (additional 6 hours per day for five days each week) to ensure that quality crisis evaluations are completed in a timely manner.

This contract has been reviewed fiscally and programmatically to determine that this is the most cost-effective approach in providing this critical and mandated service, in a timely manner, to individuals in Placer County dealing with a mental health crisis. The Placer County Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug Advisory Board has reviewed and recommended the approval of this agreement at its last meeting on June 24, 2013.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Funding for this contract includes \$318,718 (57%) in Federal and State funds, and \$240,437 (43%) in required County General Funds. This expenditure is included in the Department's FY 2013-14 Proposed Budget.

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