

**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:** July 9, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Agreement with EMQ FamiliesFirst to Provide Mental Health Services

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**ACTION REQUESTED:**

1. Approve a contract with FamiliesFirst Inc., dba EMQ FamiliesFirst in an amount not to exceed \$588,000 (\$71,000 net County cost) to provide intensive crisis stabilization and related specialty mental health services from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2015, and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign subsequent amendments up to \$49,999, consistent with the current agreement's subject matter and scope of work.

**BACKGROUND:**

In order to best meet the needs of Placer County's young people who experience severe and serious mental health challenges, the Children's System of Care and its partners deliver a combination of intensive in-home counseling, crisis stabilization, and mental health services to children and families. One component of this is a State-mandated specialty crisis service offering time-limited early intervention which helps prevent these youth from entering inpatient hospitals or other institutional settings, which are often difficult to access and, on average, more than five times as costly.

Under this agreement, up to 40 children each year will receive this effective and cost-saving service, and avoid out-of-home and hospital inpatient care. A legal action brought in another jurisdiction against the State, settled in 2010, resulted in a requirement that counties make this service available to increasing numbers of youth each year.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The total contract amount is unchanged from the previous two-year term. This contract is funded through \$517,000 (88%) in Federal and State funding, and \$71,000 (12%) in County General Funds. Of this amount, \$294,000 is included in the Department's FY 2013-14 Proposed Budget, with the balance to be included in the Department's FY 2014-15 Requested Budget.

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

