

MARIPOSA COUNTY

Human Services/Behavioral Health & Recovery Services



RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2014-429

MEETING: August 19, 2014

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Chevon Kothari, Human Services Director

RE: Quest Community Counseling Mental Health Provider Contract

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Approve an Agreement with Quest Community Counseling Services in an Amount Not to Exceed \$60,000 to Provide Counseling Services for Mental Health Clients, and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Agreement.

Quest Community Counseling Services is a Medi-Cal certified provider and may provide counseling services to clients that have Medicare, Medi-Cal, and/or private insurance.

Medi-Cal clients referred to this contractor may be seen as long as necessary for the purpose of stabilization. Clients seen over a period of time must continue to meet medical necessity as evidenced by a yearly treatment plan update. All records for these referred clients must be kept in the Mariposa County Behavioral Health Anasazi Electronic Health Record system. Case documentation that meets professional standards must be kept in the Anasazi system, including acceptable updated assessments, treatment plans and progress notes. Documentation will be monitored by the Behavioral Health Utilization Review Committee. All independent contractors will work under the guidelines established by the Mental Health Services Contract currently in effect between the Human Services Department and the State Department of Mental Health as outlined in Exhibit A of the contract.

MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD REVIEW:

In 2008 the Mariposa County Mental Health Board recommended that the Human Services Department consider contracting out to independent counselors those mental health clients who could benefit from a community counseling setting. Eligibility is to be decided on a case by case basis.

The purpose behind this recommendation from the Mental Health Board was to shift a less restrictive caseload from county staff to independent counselors. Under an independent contract, a community counselor is able to provide billable Medicare, Medi-Cal, and/or Private Insurance services. This will free up staff resources within the Department which can then be directed to more complex cases and help to reduce waiting lists for services.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

Quest Community Counseling Services is a new provider for Mariposa County Behavioral Health. This is their initial contract.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

This community provider contract will increase total Medicare and/or Medi-Cal billing through Mariposa County Behavioral Health. If the contract is not approved, total billing may be decreased.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

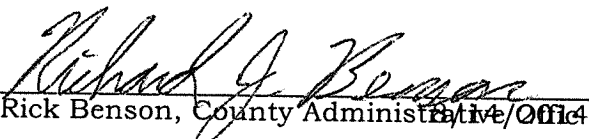
These contract service providers are cost-neutral to Mariposa County because they generate offsetting revenue through the Medi-Cal and/or Medicare billing process. These independent contractors are responsible to provide for their own costs. The Department estimates that county staff will be able to increase revenue to the Department through increased billing, by billing at higher rates for more complex cases, and by increasing the frequency of visits by other clients; therefore, there is no anticipated current or future impact to the County General Fund.

ATTACHMENTS:

Quest Community Counseling Services contract 2015 (PDF)

CAO RECOMMENDATION

Requested Action Recommended


Rick Benson, County Administrative Officer

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor

SECONDER: Janet Bibby, District III Supervisor

AYES: Stetson, Jones, Bibby, Cann, Carrier