

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO AND  
7TH AVE CARE CENTER LLC**

This Agreement is entered into this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026, by and between the County of San Mateo, a political subdivision of the state of California, hereinafter called "County," and 7<sup>th</sup> Ave Care Center LLC, hereinafter called "Contractor."

\* \* \*

Whereas, pursuant to Section 31000 of the California Government Code, County may contract with independent contractors for the furnishing of such services to or for County or any Department thereof; and

Whereas, it is necessary and desirable that Contractor be retained for the purpose of locked psychiatric care services.

**Now, therefore, it is agreed by the parties to this Agreement as follows:**

**1. Exhibits and Attachments**

The following exhibits and attachments are attached to this Agreement and incorporated into this Agreement by this reference:

- Exhibit A—Services
- Exhibit B—Payments and Rates
- Exhibit AR—Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Requirements
- Attachment H—HIPAA Business Associate Requirements
- Attachment I—§ 504 Compliance

**2. Services to be performed by Contractor**

In consideration of the payments set forth in this Agreement and in Exhibit B, Contractor shall perform services for County in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications set forth in this Agreement and in Exhibit A.

**3. Payments**

In consideration of the services provided by Contractor in accordance with all terms, conditions, and specifications set forth in this Agreement and in Exhibit A, County shall make payment to Contractor based on the rates and in the manner specified in Exhibit B. County reserves the right to withhold payment if County determines that the quantity or quality of the work performed is unacceptable. In no event shall County's total fiscal obligation under this Agreement exceed TWO MILLION THREE HUNDRED THIRTY-ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,331,500). In the event that the County makes any advance payments, Contractor agrees to refund any amounts in excess of the amount owed by the County at the time of contract termination or expiration. Contractor is not entitled to payment for work not performed as required by this agreement.

#### **4. Term**

Subject to compliance with all terms and conditions, the term of this Agreement shall be from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

#### **5. Termination**

This Agreement may be terminated by Contractor or by the Chief of the Health System or his/her designee at any time without a requirement of good cause upon thirty (30) days' advance written notice to the other party. Subject to availability of funding, Contractor shall be entitled to receive payment for work/services provided prior to termination of the Agreement. Such payment shall be that prorated portion of the full payment determined by comparing the work/services actually completed to the work/services required by the Agreement.

County may terminate this Agreement or a portion of the services referenced in the Attachments and Exhibits based upon the unavailability of Federal, State, or County funds by providing written notice to Contractor as soon as is reasonably possible after County learns of said unavailability of outside funding.

County may terminate this Agreement for cause. In order to terminate for cause, County must first give Contractor notice of the alleged breach. Contractor shall have five business days after receipt of such notice to respond and a total of ten calendar days after receipt of such notice to cure the alleged breach. If Contractor fails to cure the breach within this period, County may immediately terminate this Agreement without further action. The option available in this paragraph is separate from the ability to terminate without cause with appropriate notice described above. In the event that County provides notice of an alleged breach pursuant to this section, County may, in extreme circumstances, immediately suspend performance of services and payment under this Agreement pending the resolution of the process described in this paragraph. County has sole discretion to determine what constitutes an extreme circumstance for purposes of this paragraph, and County shall use reasonable judgment in making that determination.

#### **6. Contract Materials**

At the end of this Agreement, or in the event of termination, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, maps, photographs, reports, and other written materials (collectively referred to as "contract materials") prepared by Contractor under this Agreement shall become the property of County and shall be promptly delivered to County. Upon termination, Contractor may make and retain a copy of such contract materials if permitted by law.

#### **7. Relationship of Parties**

Contractor agrees and understands that the work/services performed under this Agreement are performed as an independent contractor and not as an employee of

County and that neither Contractor nor its employees acquire any of the rights, privileges, powers, or advantages of County employees.

**8. Hold Harmless**

**a. General Hold Harmless**

Contractor shall indemnify and save harmless County and its officers, agents, employees, and servants from all claims, suits, or actions of every name, kind, and description resulting from this Agreement, the performance of any work or services required of Contractor under this Agreement, or payments made pursuant to this Agreement brought for, or on account of, any of the following:

(A) injuries to or death of any person, including Contractor or its employees/officers/agents;

(B) damage to any property of any kind whatsoever and to whomsoever belonging;

(C) any sanctions, penalties, or claims of damages resulting from Contractor's failure to comply, if applicable, with the requirements set forth in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and all Federal regulations promulgated thereunder, as amended; or

(D) any other loss or cost, including but not limited to that caused by the concurrent active or passive negligence of County and/or its officers, agents, employees, or servants. However, Contractor's duty to indemnify and save harmless under this Section shall not apply to injuries or damage for which County has been found in a court of competent jurisdiction to be solely liable by reason of its own negligence or willful misconduct.

The duty of Contractor to indemnify and save harmless as set forth by this Section shall include the duty to defend as set forth in Section 2778 of the California Civil Code.

**b. Intellectual Property Indemnification**

Contractor hereby certifies that it owns, controls, and/or licenses and retains all right, title, and/or interest in and to any intellectual property it uses in relation to this Agreement, including the design, look, feel, features, source code, content, and/or other technology relating to any part of the services it provides under this Agreement and including all related patents, inventions, trademarks, and copyrights, all applications therefor, and all trade names, service marks, know how, and trade secrets (collectively referred to as "IP Rights") except as otherwise noted by this Agreement.

Contractor warrants that the services it provides under this Agreement do not infringe, violate, trespass, or constitute the unauthorized use or misappropriation of any IP Rights of any third party. Contractor shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless County from and against all liabilities, costs, damages, losses, and expenses (including reasonable

attorney fees) arising out of or related to any claim by a third party that the services provided under this Agreement infringe or violate any third-party's IP Rights provided any such right is enforceable in the United States. Contractor's duty to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless under this Section applies only provided that: (a) County notifies Contractor promptly in writing of any notice of any such third-party claim; (b) County cooperates with Contractor, at Contractor's expense, in all reasonable respects in connection with the investigation and defense of any such third-party claim; (c) Contractor retains sole control of the defense of any action on any such claim and all negotiations for its settlement or compromise (provided Contractor shall not have the right to settle any criminal action, suit, or proceeding without County's prior written consent, not to be unreasonably withheld, and provided further that any settlement permitted under this Section shall not impose any financial or other obligation on County, impair any right of County, or contain any stipulation, admission, or acknowledgement of wrongdoing on the part of County without County's prior written consent, not to be unreasonably withheld); and (d) should services under this Agreement become, or in Contractor's opinion be likely to become, the subject of such a claim, or in the event such a third party claim or threatened claim causes County's reasonable use of the services under this Agreement to be seriously endangered or disrupted, Contractor shall, at Contractor's option and expense, either: (i) procure for County the right to continue using the services without infringement or (ii) replace or modify the services so that they become non-infringing but remain functionally equivalent.

Notwithstanding anything in this Section to the contrary, Contractor will have no obligation or liability to County under this Section to the extent any otherwise covered claim is based upon: (a) any aspects of the services under this Agreement which have been modified by or for County (other than modification performed by, or at the direction of, Contractor) in such a way as to cause the alleged infringement at issue; and/or (b) any aspects of the services under this Agreement which have been used by County in a manner prohibited by this Agreement.

The duty of Contractor to indemnify and save harmless as set forth by this Section shall include the duty to defend as set forth in Section 2778 of the California Civil Code.

## **9. Assignability and Subcontracting**

Contractor shall not assign this Agreement or any portion of it to a third party or subcontract with a third party to provide services required by Contractor under this Agreement without the prior written consent of County. Any such assignment or subcontract without County's prior written consent shall give County the right to automatically and immediately terminate this Agreement without penalty or advance notice.

**10. Insurance**

**a. General Requirements**

Contractor shall not commence work or be required to commence work under this Agreement unless and until all insurance required under this Section has been obtained and such insurance has been approved by County’s Risk Management, and Contractor shall use diligence to obtain such insurance and to obtain such approval. Contractor shall furnish County with certificates of insurance evidencing the required coverage, and there shall be a specific contractual liability endorsement extending Contractor’s coverage to include the contractual liability assumed by Contractor pursuant to this Agreement. These certificates shall specify or be endorsed to provide that thirty (30) days’ notice must be given, in writing, to County of any pending change in the limits of liability or of any cancellation or modification of the policy.

**b. Workers’ Compensation and Employer’s Liability Insurance**

Contractor shall have in effect during the entire term of this Agreement workers’ compensation and employer’s liability insurance providing full statutory coverage. In signing this Agreement, Contractor certifies, as required by Section 1861 of the California Labor Code, that (a) it is aware of the provisions of Section 3700 of the California Labor Code, which require every employer to be insured against liability for workers’ compensation or to undertake self-insurance in accordance with the provisions of the Labor Code, and (b) it will comply with such provisions before commencing the performance of work under this Agreement.

**c. Liability Insurance**

Contractor shall take out and maintain during the term of this Agreement such bodily injury liability and property damage liability insurance as shall protect Contractor and all of its employees/officers/agents while performing work covered by this Agreement from any and all claims for damages for bodily injury, including accidental death, as well as any and all claims for property damage which may arise from Contractor’s operations under this Agreement, whether such operations be by Contractor, any subcontractor, anyone directly or indirectly employed by either of them, or an agent of either of them. Such insurance shall be combined single limit bodily injury and property damage for each occurrence and shall not be less than the amounts specified below:

- (a) Comprehensive General Liability... \$1,000,000
- (b) Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance... \$1,000,000
- (c) Professional Liability..... \$1,000,000

County and its officers, agents, employees, and servants shall be named as additional insured on any such policies of insurance, which shall also contain a provision that (a) the insurance afforded thereby to County and its officers, agents, employees, and servants shall be primary insurance to the full limits of liability of the policy and (b) if the County or

its officers, agents, employees, and servants have other insurance against the loss covered by such a policy, such other insurance shall be excess insurance only.

In the event of the breach of any provision of this Section, or in the event any notice is received which indicates any required insurance coverage will be diminished or canceled, County, at its option, may, notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary, immediately declare a material breach of this Agreement and suspend all further work and payment pursuant to this Agreement.

## **11. Compliance With Laws**

All services to be performed by Contractor pursuant to this Agreement shall be performed in accordance with all applicable Federal, State, County, and municipal laws, ordinances, regulations, and executive orders including but not limited to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and the Federal Regulations promulgated thereunder, as amended (if applicable), the Business Associate requirements set forth in Attachment H (if attached), the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in programs and activities receiving any Federal or County financial assistance. Such services shall also be performed in accordance with all applicable ordinances and regulations, including but not limited to appropriate licensure, certification regulations, provisions pertaining to confidentiality of records, and applicable quality assurance regulations. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this Agreement and any applicable State, Federal, County, or municipal law or regulation, the requirements of the applicable law or regulation will take precedence over the requirements set forth in this Agreement.

Further, Contractor certifies that it and all of its subcontractors will adhere to all applicable provisions of Chapter 4.106 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code, which regulates the use of disposable food service ware. Accordingly, Contractor shall not use any non-recyclable plastic disposable food service ware when providing prepared food on property owned or leased by the County and instead shall use biodegradable, compostable, reusable, or recyclable plastic food service ware on property owned or leased by the County.

Contractor will timely and accurately complete, sign, and submit all necessary documentation of compliance.

## **12. Non-Discrimination and Other Requirements**

### **a. General Non-discrimination**

No person shall be denied any services provided pursuant to this Agreement (except as limited by the scope of services) on the grounds of race, color, national origin, ancestry, age, disability (physical or mental), sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital or domestic partner status, religion, political beliefs or affiliation, familial or parental status (including pregnancy), medical condition (cancer-related), military service, or genetic information.

**b. Equal Employment Opportunity**

Contractor shall ensure equal employment opportunity based on objective standards of recruitment, classification, selection, promotion, compensation, performance evaluation, and management relations for all employees under this Agreement. Contractor's equal employment policies shall be made available to County upon request.

**c. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973**

Contractor shall comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, which provides that no otherwise qualified individual with a disability shall, solely by reason of a disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in the performance of any services this Agreement. This Section applies only to contractors who are providing services to members of the public under this Agreement.

**d. Compliance with County's Equal Benefits Ordinance**

Contractor shall comply with all laws relating to the provision of benefits to its employees and their spouses or domestic partners, including, but not limited to, such laws prohibiting discrimination in the provision of such benefits on the basis that the spouse or domestic partner of the Contractor's employee is of the same or opposite sex as the employee.

**e. Discrimination Against Individuals with Disabilities**

The nondiscrimination requirements of 41 C.F.R. 60-741.5(a) are incorporated into this Agreement as if fully set forth here, and Contractor and any subcontractor shall abide by the requirements of 41 C.F.R. 60-741.5(a). This regulation prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals on the basis of disability and requires affirmative action by covered prime contractors and subcontractors to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities.

**f. History of Discrimination**

Contractor certifies that no finding of discrimination has been issued in the past 365 days against Contractor by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing, or any other investigative entity. If any finding(s) of discrimination have been issued against Contractor within the past 365 days by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing, or other investigative entity, Contractor shall provide County with a written explanation of the outcome(s) or remedy for the discrimination prior to execution of this Agreement. Failure to comply with this Section shall constitute a material breach of this Agreement and subjects the Agreement to immediate termination at the sole option of the County.

**g. Reporting; Violation of Non-discrimination Provisions**

Contractor shall report to the County Manager the filing in any court or with any administrative agency of any complaint or allegation of discrimination on any of the bases prohibited by this Section of the Agreement or the Section titled "Compliance with Laws". Such duty shall include reporting of the filing of any and all charges with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing, or any other entity charged with the investigation or adjudication of allegations covered by this subsection within 30 days of such filing, provided that within such 30 days such entity has not notified Contractor that such charges are dismissed or otherwise unfounded. Such notification shall include a general description of the circumstances involved and a general description of the kind of discrimination alleged (for example, gender-, sexual orientation-, religion-, or race-based discrimination).

Violation of the non-discrimination provisions of this Agreement shall be considered a breach of this Agreement and subject the Contractor to penalties, to be determined by the County Manager, including but not limited to the following:

- i. termination of this Agreement;
- ii. disqualification of the Contractor from being considered for or being awarded a County contract for a period of up to 3 years;
- iii. liquidated damages of \$2,500 per violation; and/or
- iv. imposition of other appropriate contractual and civil remedies and sanctions, as determined by the County Manager.

To effectuate the provisions of this Section, the County Manager shall have the authority to offset all or any portion of the amount described in this Section against amounts due to Contractor under this Agreement or any other agreement between Contractor and County.

**h. Compliance with Living Wage Ordinance**

As required by Chapter 2.88 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code, Contractor certifies all contractor(s) and subcontractor(s) obligated under this contract shall fully comply with the provisions of the County of San Mateo Living Wage Ordinance, including, but not limited to, paying all Covered Employees the current Living Wage and providing notice to all Covered Employees and Subcontractors as required under the Ordinance.

**13. Anti-Harassment Clause**

Employees of Contractor and County shall not harass (sexually or otherwise) or bully or discriminate against each other's employee on the grounds of race, color, national origin, ancestry, age, disability (physical or mental), sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital or domestic partner status, religion, political beliefs or affiliation, familial or parental status (including pregnancy), medical condition (cancer-related), military service, or genetic information. Any misconduct by Contractor's employees towards County employees may be grounds for termination of the Contract. Contractor shall

timely address any allegations of their employee's misconduct by a County employee including immediately removing that employee from work on the Contract.

#### **14. Compliance with County Employee Jury Service Ordinance**

Contractor shall comply with Chapter 2.85 of the County's Ordinance Code, which states that Contractor shall have and adhere to a written policy providing that its employees, to the extent they are full-time employees and live in San Mateo County, shall receive from the Contractor, on an annual basis, no fewer than five days of regular pay for jury service in San Mateo County, with jury pay being provided only for each day of actual jury service. The policy may provide that such employees deposit any fees received for such jury service with Contractor or that the Contractor may deduct from an employee's regular pay the fees received for jury service in San Mateo County. By signing this Agreement, Contractor certifies that it has and adheres to a policy consistent with Chapter 2.85. For purposes of this Section, if Contractor has no employees in San Mateo County, it is sufficient for Contractor to provide the following written statement to County: "For purposes of San Mateo County's jury service ordinance, Contractor certifies that it has no full-time employees who live in San Mateo County. To the extent that it hires any such employees during the term of its Agreement with San Mateo County, Contractor shall adopt a policy that complies with Chapter 2.85 of the County's Ordinance Code." The requirements of Chapter 2.85 do not apply if this Agreement's total value listed in the Section titled "Payments", is less than one-hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), but Contractor acknowledges that Chapter 2.85's requirements will apply if this Agreement is amended such that its total value meets or exceeds that threshold amount.

#### **15. Retention of Records; Right to Monitor and Audit**

(a) Contractor shall maintain all required records relating to services provided under this Agreement for three (3) years after County makes final payment and all other pending matters are closed, and Contractor shall be subject to the examination and/or audit by County, a Federal grantor agency, and the State of California.

(b) Contractor shall comply with all program and fiscal reporting requirements set forth by applicable Federal, State, and local agencies and as required by County.

(c) Contractor agrees upon reasonable notice to provide to County, to any Federal or State department having monitoring or review authority, to County's authorized representative, and/or to any of their respective audit agencies access to and the right to examine all records and documents necessary to determine compliance with relevant Federal, State, and local statutes, rules, and regulations, to determine compliance with this Agreement, and to evaluate the quality, appropriateness, and timeliness of services performed.

## **16. Merger Clause; Amendments**

This Agreement, including the Exhibits and Attachments attached to this Agreement and incorporated by reference, constitutes the sole Agreement of the parties to this Agreement and correctly states the rights, duties, and obligations of each party as of this document's date. In the event that any term, condition, provision, requirement, or specification set forth in the body of this Agreement conflicts with or is inconsistent with any term, condition, provision, requirement, or specification in any Exhibit and/or Attachment to this Agreement, the provisions of the body of the Agreement shall prevail. Any prior agreement, promises, negotiations, or representations between the parties not expressly stated in this document are not binding. All subsequent modifications or amendments shall be in writing and signed by the parties.

## **17. Controlling Law; Venue**

The validity of this Agreement and of its terms, the rights and duties of the parties under this Agreement, the interpretation of this Agreement, the performance of this Agreement, and any other dispute of any nature arising out of this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of California without regard to its choice of law or conflict of law rules. Any dispute arising out of this Agreement shall be venued either in the San Mateo County Superior Court or in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California.

## **18. Notices**

Any notice, request, demand, or other communication required or permitted under this Agreement shall be deemed to be properly given when both: (1) transmitted via facsimile to the telephone number listed below or transmitted via email to the email address listed below; and (2) sent to the physical address listed below by either being deposited in the United States mail, postage prepaid, or deposited for overnight delivery, charges prepaid, with an established overnight courier that provides a tracking number showing confirmation of receipt.

In the case of County, to:

Name/Title: Alexandra Hagnere / Clinical Service Manager II  
Behavioral Health and Recovery Services  
Address: 2000 Alameda de Las Pulgas, Suite 200  
San Mateo, CA 94403  
Telephone: 650-573-3615  
Mobile: 650-474-1971  
Email: [AHagnere@smcgov.org](mailto:AHagnere@smcgov.org)

In the case of Contractor, to:

Name/Title: 7<sup>th</sup> Ave Care Center LLC  
David Wertheimer  
Chief Executive Officer  
Address: 2115 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue,  
Santa Cruz, CA 95062  
Telephone: 831-476-1700  
Mobile: 610-457-9593  
Email: [David@citrushq.com](mailto:David@citrushq.com)

**19. Electronic Signature**

Both County and Contractor wish to permit this Agreement and future documents relating to this Agreement to be digitally signed in accordance with California law and County's Electronic Signature Administrative Memo. Any party to this Agreement may revoke such agreement to permit electronic signatures at any time in relation to all future documents by providing notice pursuant to this Agreement.

**20. Payment of Permits/Licenses**

Contractor bears responsibility to obtain any license, permit, or approval required from any agency for work/services to be performed under this Agreement at Contractor's own expense prior to commencement of said work/services. Failure to do so will result in forfeit of any right to compensation under this Agreement.

\* \* \*

In witness of and in agreement with this Agreement's terms, the parties, by their duly authorized representatives, affix their respective signatures:

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

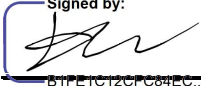
By: \_\_\_\_\_  
President, Board of Supervisors, San Mateo County

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Said Board

7<sup>th</sup> Ave Care Center LLC

Signed by:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Contractor's Signature

Date: 05/21/2026  
\_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBIT A - SERVICES**  
**7<sup>TH</sup> AVE CARE CENTER LLC**  
**FY 2026-2027**

In consideration of the payments set forth in Exhibit B, Contractor shall provide the following services:

I. MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM SERVICES

For the term of this Agreement as herein specified, Contractor shall provide to the County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Division (BHRS) up to eighteen (18) beds for San Mateo County clients who are seriously and persistently mentally ill and in need of mental health rehabilitation, treatment, and long-term care.

A. Admissions

All admissions are subject to prior authorization by the County. The admission of all persons receiving services under this Agreement must receive the approval of the Deputy Director of BHRS or designee. A signed "Authorization for Admission to IMD/State Hospital Placement" form shall indicate such approval.

B. Patient Eligibility

Contractor shall admit clients with a DSM-IV diagnosis. Individuals in need of twenty-four (24) hour skilled nursing services, clients who may have histories of and, without adequate treatment, are at risk of displaying behavioral symptoms (such as combativeness, elopement risk, suicide risk, and excessive verbal abusiveness) which preclude them from being admitted into a lower-level care facility, shall be considered acceptable for admission. Contractor may grant individual exceptions to these admission criteria. It is agreed by County and Contractor that individuals whose mental illness is deemed appropriate for acute care, as well as individuals suffering exclusively from dementia, developmental/intellectual disability, or physical illness (without a psychiatric component), shall not be considered for admission.

## C. MHRC Service Levels

### 1. Basic Services

Contractor shall provide basic service level that fully complies with Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 72445, or Title 9 of the California Code of Regulations, which includes life skills training, money management, training on accessing community services, transitional programs, and discharge planning with County staff. Basic services shall also include reasonable access to medical treatment and up-to-date psychopharmacology including Clozapine, reasonable transportation to needed off-site services, and bilingual/bicultural programming.

### 2. Enhanced Services

Contractor shall provide enhanced services such as experienced clinical and rehabilitative staff such as, but not limited to, psychiatric technicians, vocational and rehabilitative counselors and recreational therapists. Programs shall target enhanced services delivery for those clients whose mental health symptoms become so severe that they are at high risk of being discharged from the facility.

### 3. MHRC – Base Level Care

Clients with greater stabilization, requiring fewer but regular behavior intervention, psychoeducation and community living skills development for a successful transition to independence. Clients engaged in program and participated in self-direction of recovery process.

### 4. MHRC – Enhanced Care Level A

Clients with greater stabilization, who are moderate-level of need, require regular behavior intervention, psychoeducation and community living skills development.

### 5. MHRC – Enhanced Care Level B

Clients are significantly impaired with longer periods of severe illness and require routine and frequent interventions, intensive programming, supervision and support. 1:1 observation may be required frequently for polydipsia, suicidal management, AWOL behavior, assaultive, and self-injurious behavior.

### 6. MHRC – Enhanced Care Level C

1:1 observation is required for suicidal management, AWOL behavior, assaultive, and self-injurious behavior. Clients with significant mental health challenges, who have been

determined/adjudicated that they are unable to stand trial for a felony due to a mental health condition.

D. Patient Discharge Planning and Placement

Contractor shall keep a County-designated person fully informed of discharge plans and shall collaborate in pre-discharge program planning. County shall designate a facility liaison who shall be responsible for arranging community support necessary for patient discharge.

E. Reporting

1. Upon request Contractor shall provide information on medications prescribed and administered to clients placed under this Agreement.
2. Contractor will provide to the Chief of the Health System or designee a photocopy of each unusual occurrence report filed with the State Department of Health Care Services, as defined in Section 72541 of Division 5, Title 22, California Code of Regulations.
3. County shall have reasonable access to all areas of the facility during business hours and to such data as will allow for the meaningful evaluation and monitoring of quality of care.
4. Contractor shall provide a quarterly report on restraint/seclusion use on clients placed under this Agreement.

II. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: To minimize inappropriate or unnecessary state and local acute hospitalization to the extent clinically appropriate.

Objective 1: No more than ten percent (10%) of all admissions will be discharged to an acute psychiatric level of care.

Data will be provided by Contractor to County bi-annually, June 1 and December 1.

Objective 2: At least seventy percent (70%) of clients will show a decrease in the percentage of hospital days compared to the year prior to their admission.

Data will be provided by Contractor to County bi-annually, June 1 and December 1.

Goal 2: To modify clients' dysfunctional maladaptive behavioral patterns and develop daily living skills which will enable them to live in a less restrictive, more independent setting.

Objective 1: At least seventy-seven point eight percent (77.8%) of all discharged clients will be discharged to a less restrictive, more independent level of care, which shall include all community-based supported housing.

Data will be provided by Contractor to County bi-annually, June 1 and December 1.

\*\*\*End of Exhibit A\*\*\*

**EXHIBIT B – PAYMENTS AND RATES**  
**7<sup>TH</sup> AVE CARE CENTER LLC**  
**FY 2026-2027**

In consideration of the payments set forth in Exhibit B, Contractor shall provide the following services:

I. PAYMENTS

In full consideration of the services provided by Contractor pursuant to this Agreement, and subject to Paragraph 3 (“Payments”) of this Agreement, County shall pay Contractor in the manner described below, except that any and all such payments shall be subject to the conditions contained in this Agreement.

A. Maximum Obligation

Notwithstanding the method of payment set forth herein, in no event shall County pay or be obligated to pay Contractor more than the sum of TWO MILLION THREE HUNDRED THIRTY-ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,331,500) for services provided under Exhibit A, of this Agreement for the term July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

A. Rates

FY 2026-2027

<b>Service Description</b>	<b>FY 2026-2027 Rate (per day)</b>
Bed Hold	\$344.05
MHRC – Base	\$350.00
MHRC – Care Level A	\$500.00
MHRC – Care Level B	\$650.00
MHRC – Care Level C	\$800.00
1:1 Supervision after 24 hours	\$400.00

1. Prior approval from County is required for any and all rates or fees including additional rates or fees higher than negotiated rate at time of placement.
2. Under the terms of Title 22, Division 5, Section 72520, California Code of Regulations, Contractor shall be reimbursed for bed-hold days. The bed-hold rate shall be equal to the negotiated rate minus Department of Health Care Services food cost rate. Bed-hold shall be authorized by County in advance. Initial authorization will not exceed 7 days.

3. County shall be responsible for billing and collecting Share of Cost (SOC) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) revenue, and any such collections shall be retained by County to offset the cost of providing these services. Contractor shall facilitate such collections and remit any revenue received to County.
4. San Mateo County clients who are eligible for reimbursement from the Veteran's Administration or other private resources are not billable under this contract.
5. The Contractor shall not hold beneficiaries liable for debts in the event that the County becomes insolvent, for costs of covered services provided under this or other contracts, referral or other arrangement rather than from the County.

C. Payment Schedule and Reporting

1. Payment by County to Contractor shall be monthly. Contractor shall bill County on or before the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) working day of each month for the prior month. The invoice shall include a summary of services and changes for the month of service. All claims shall clearly reflect patient names, number of patient days, and daily negotiated rate. Non-billable clients referenced in this Exhibit B must be included in the monthly claim with a daily rate of ZERO DOLLARS (\$0) and the source of reimbursement indicated. In addition contractor shall provide back-up to the invoice. Such back-up shall be in the form of:
  - a. County provided service reporting form(s) ("Service Reporting Form(s)") completed by Contractor according to the instructions accompanying the Service Reporting Form(s), or
  - b. County approved form(s) which provide detailed description of services provided including but not limited to: client name, mental health ID#, service date, type of service provided (Ex: enhanced rate, one-to-one supervision, etc.), and duration of service (hour/minute format).
2. All residential care facilities including IMD's and MHRC's shall provide County a weekly census using a County-provide standardized form. This form shall be completed and sent via the County's secure email system to [BHRS-MIS-Census@smcgov.org](mailto:BHRS-MIS-Census@smcgov.org) or faxed to (650) 573-2110 (Attention MIS/Billing) on each Monday following the end of the report week. If you opt to use secure email, MIS/Billing at (650) 573-2502 to initiate that use.

The weekly census will not replace but will be in addition to the monthly invoice that is required in paragraph C.1 above.

3. County reserves the right to change the Service Report Forms, instructions, and/or require the Contractor to modify their description of services as the County deems necessary.
- D. The Chief of the Health System or designee is authorized to execute contract amendments which modify the County's maximum fiscal obligation by no more than \$25,000 (in aggregate), and/or modify the contract term and/or services so long as the modified term or services is/are within the current or revised fiscal provisions.
- E. If County or Contractor finds that performance is inadequate, at the County's discretion, a meeting may be called to discuss the causes for the performance problem, and this Agreement may either be renegotiated, allowed to continue to end of term, or terminated pursuant to Paragraph 4 of this Agreement. Any unspent monies due to performance failure may reduce the following year's agreement, if any.
- F. In the event Contractor claims or receives payment from County for a service, reimbursement for which is later disallowed by County or the State of California or the United States Government, then Contractor shall promptly refund the disallowed amount to County upon request, or, at its option, County may offset the amount disallowed from any payment due or become due to Contractor under this Agreement or any other agreement.
- G. County anticipates the receipt of revenues from various sources to be used to fund services provided by Contractor through this Agreement. Should planned or actual revenues be less than the amounts anticipated at the time of the signing of this Agreement, the maximum payment obligation and/or payment obligations for specific services may be reduced at the discretion of the Director of Health or designee.
- H. In the event this Agreement is terminated prior to June 30, 2027, the Contractor shall be paid for services already provided pursuant to this Agreement.
- I. Claims Certification and Program Integrity

Anytime Contractor submits a claim to the County for reimbursement for services provided under Schedule A of this Agreement, Contractor shall certify by signature that the claim is true and accurate by stating the claim is submitted under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California.

The claim must include the following language and signature line at the bottom of the form(s) and/or cover letter used to report the claim:

“Under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, I hereby certify that the above claim for services complies with all terms and conditions referenced in the Agreement with San Mateo County.

Executed at \_\_\_\_\_, California, on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Agency \_\_\_\_\_”

\*\*\*End of Exhibit B\*\*\*

## **Exhibit AR : Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Requirements**

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### **I. Health Order Compliance Requirements**

Comply with employer requirements established by Cal-OSHA through the COVID -19 Prevention Non-Emergency Regulations which are chaptered in the California Code of Regulations, Title 8-Cal/OSHA, Chapter 4 Division of Industrial Safety, Subchapter 7 General Industry Safety Orders, Section 3205 COVID-19 Prevention.

This section applies to all employees and places of employment with the exception of locations with one employee that does not have contact with other persons, employees working from home, or employees teleworking from a location of the employee's choice, which is not under the control of the employer.

Employers can comply with this section by either maintaining a COVID-19 Plan that was required by previous contract conditions or as part of the required Injury and Illness Prevention Program required by Section 3203.

Employers are required to comply with COVID-19 Prevention requirements of Cal/OSHA.

More information, including access to the text of the regulations, COVID-19 Prevention Plan Templates, Frequently Asked Questions, and Fact Sheets can be found at [https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/Non\\_Emergency\\_Regulations/](https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/Non_Emergency_Regulations/).

### **II. ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

#### **A. Quality Management and Compliance**

##### **1. Quality Management Program and Quality Improvement Plan**

Contractor must have a Quality Management Program and submit a Quality Improvement Plan to Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) Quality Management (QM) annually by June 30. The Quality Improvement Plan should address 1) how the Contractor will comply with all elements of this Agreement, 2) the Contractor will maintain an audit disallowance rate of less than five percent (5%), and 3) first appointment will be within fourteen (14) days of referral or request of service. BHRS QM will provide feedback if the submitted plan is missing critical components related to San Mateo County requirements.

Additional feedback may be available if requested prior to the submission date.

## 2. Quality Improvement Activities and Participation

Contractor shall comply with the County's ongoing comprehensive Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement (QAPI) Program (42 C.F.R. § 438.330(a)) and work with the County to improve established outcomes by following structural and operational processes and activities that are consistent with current practice standards.

- a) Contractor shall participate in quality improvement (QI) activities, including clinical and non-clinical performance improvement projects (PIPs), as requested by the County in relation to state and federal requirements and responsibilities, to improve health outcomes and clients' satisfaction over time. Other QI activities include quality assurance, collection and submission of performance measures specified by the County, mechanisms to detect both underutilization and overutilization of services, client and system outcomes, utilization management, utilization review, provider appeals, provider credentialing and re-credentialing, and client grievances. Contractor shall measure, monitor, and annually report to the County its performance.
- b) Contractor shall implement mechanisms to assess client/family satisfaction based on County's guidance. The Contractor shall assess client/family satisfaction by:
  - i) Surveying client/family satisfaction with the Contractor's services at least annually.
  - ii) Evaluating client grievances, appeals and State Hearings at least annually.
  - iii) Evaluating requests to change persons providing services at least annually.
  - iv) Informing the County and clients of the results of client/family satisfaction activities.
- c) Contractor, if applicable, shall implement mechanisms to monitor the safety and effectiveness of medication practices. This mechanism shall be under the supervision of a person licensed to prescribe or dispense prescription drugs, at least annually.
- d) Contractor shall implement mechanisms to monitor appropriate and timely intervention of occurrences that raise quality of care concerns. The Contractor shall take appropriate follow-up action when such an occurrence is identified. The results of the intervention shall be evaluated

by the Contractor at least annually and shared with the County.

- e) Contractor shall assist County, as needed, with the development and implementation of Corrective Action Plans.
- f) Contractor shall collaborate with County to create a QI Work Plan with documented annual evaluations and documented revisions as needed. The QI Work Plan shall evaluate the impact and effectiveness of its quality assessment and performance improvement program.
- g) Contractor shall attend and participate in the County's Quality Improvement Committee (QIC) to recommend policy decisions, review and evaluate results of QI activities, including PIPs, institute needed QI actions, and ensure follow-up of QI processes. Contractor shall ensure that there is active participation by the Contractor's practitioners and providers in the QIC.
- h) Contractor shall assist County, as needed, with the development and implementation of Corrective Action Plans.
- i) Contractor shall participate, as required, in annual, independent external quality reviews (EQR) of the quality, timeliness, and access to the services covered under this Contract, which are conducted pursuant to Subpart E of Part 438 of the Code of Federal Regulations. (42 C.F.R. §§ 438.350(a) and 438.320)

### 3. Referring Individuals to Psychiatrist

Contractor will have written procedures for referring individuals to a psychiatrist or physician when necessary, if a psychiatrist is not available.

### 4. Medication Support Services

For Contractors that provide or store medications: Contractor will store and dispense medications in compliance with all pertinent state and federal standards. Policies and procedures must be in place for dispensing, administering and storing medications consistent with BHRS Policy 99-03, Medication Room Management and BHRS Policy 04-08 Medication Monitoring located at [www.smchealth.org/bhrs-documents](http://www.smchealth.org/bhrs-documents). In particular:

- a) Medications are logged in, verified, counted and added to inventory sheets.
- b) All medications obtained by prescription are labeled in compliance with federal and state laws. Prescription labels are altered only by persons legally authorized to do so.

- c) Medications intended for external use only are stored separately from medications intended for internal use; food and blood samples are stored in separate refrigerators.
- d) All medications are stored at proper temperatures: room temperature drugs at 59-86 degrees Fahrenheit and refrigerated drugs at 36-46 degrees Fahrenheit.
- e) Medications are stored in a locked area with access limited to those medical personnel authorized to prescribe, dispense or administer medication.
- f) Medications are disposed of after the expiration date and recorded.
- g) Injectable multi-dose vials are dated and initialed when opened.
- h) A medications log is maintained to ensure that expired, contaminated, deteriorated and abandoned medications are disposed in a manner consistent with state and federal laws.
- i) "Stock" medications that are not prescribed by the client's physician may not be used (for example, Tylenol).

## 5. Record Retention

Paragraph 14 of the Agreement notwithstanding, Contractor shall maintain medical records required by the California Code of Regulations. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Contractor shall maintain beneficiary medical and/or clinical records for a period of ten (10) years, except the records of persons under age eighteen (18) at the time of treatment shall be maintained: a) until ten (10) years beyond the person's eighteenth (18th) birthday or b) for a period of ten (10) years beyond the date of discharge, whichever is later. This rule does not supersede professional standards. Contractor may maintain records for a longer period of time if required by other regulations or licenses.

## 6. Documentation of Services

Contractor shall provide all pertinent documentation required for state and federal reimbursement including but not limited to Consent Forms, assessments, treatment plans, and progress notes. Contractor agencies must submit, via fax to Quality Management at 650-525-1762, their version of these forms for approval before the forms are to be used. Special attention must be paid to documentation requirements for residential treatment facilities. Documentation shall be completed in compliance with the BHRS Policies & Documentation Manuals (as defined in Paragraph II. of this Exhibit). Contractor agencies are required to provide and maintain record of regular documentation training to staff providing direct services. Proof of trainings including attendance by staff may be requested at any time during the term of this Agreement.

System of Care (SOC) Short-Doyle MediCal Mental Health Providers shall document in accordance with the BHRS Mental Health & AOD Documentation Manual located online at: <https://www.smchealth.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/bhrsdocmanual.pdf>

SOC contractor will utilize either documentation forms located on <http://smchealth.org/SOCMHContractors> or contractor's own forms that have been pre-approved.

Substance Use provider services shall be in compliance with the Alcohol and Other Drug Services Provider Handbook which is located online at <http://www.smchealth.org/bhrs/aod/handbook>.

## 7. Audits

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services QM will conduct regular chart audits of Contractors. Contractor is required to provide either the original or copies of charts, including all documentation upon request. The Department of Health Care Services and other regulatory agencies conduct regular audits of the clinical services provided by BHRS and Contractors requiring submission of charts as requested. Contractor is required to provide all necessary documentation for external audits and reviews within the stated timeline.

## 8. Client Rights and Satisfaction Surveys

### a) Administering Satisfaction Surveys

Contractor agrees to administer/utilize any and all survey instruments as directed by BHRS, including outcomes and satisfaction measurement instruments.

### b) Beneficiary/Patient's Rights

Contractor will comply with County policies and procedures relating to beneficiary/patient's rights and responsibilities as referenced in the Agreement.

### c) Advance Directives

Contractor will comply with County policies and procedures relating to advance directives.

## 9. Beneficiary Brochure and Provider Lists

Contractor must provide Medi-Cal beneficiaries new to BHRS with a beneficiary brochure at the time of their first mental health service from the Contractor. Contractors are required to be aware of and make available to BHRS Medi-Cal clients all mandatory postings listed at this website <http://www.smchealth.org/bhrs/providers/mandpost>.

## 10. Licensing Reports

Contractor shall submit a copy of any licensing complaint or corrective report issued by a licensing agency to BHRS Quality Management, BHRS Deputy Director of Youth Services, BHRS Deputy Director of Adult and Older Adult Services, or the Manager of SU Services or their designee, within ten (10) business days of Contractor's receipt of any such licensing report.

## 11. Compliance with HIPAA, Confidentiality Laws, and PHI Security

- a) Contractor must implement administrative, physical, and technical safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of Protected Health Information (PHI), including electronic PHI that it creates, receives, maintains, uses or transmits, in compliance with 45 C.F.R and to prevent use or disclosure of PHI other than as provided for by this Agreement. Contractor shall implement reasonable and appropriate policies and procedures to comply with the standards. Contractor is required to report any security incident or breach of confidential PHI to BHRS Quality Management within twenty-four (24) hours.
- b) Contractor will develop and maintain a written Privacy and Security Program that includes administrative, technical and physical safeguards appropriate to the size and complexity of the Contractor's operations and the nature and scope of its activities.
- c) Contractor agrees to comply with the provisions of 42 C.F.R. Part 2 as described below if records contain or contract possesses any PHI covered under 42 C.F.R Part 2:
  - 1) Acknowledge that in receiving, storing, processing, or otherwise using any information from BHRS about the clients in the program, it is fully bound by the provisions of the federal regulations governing Confidentiality of Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Patient Records, 42 C.F.R. Part 2;

- 2) Undertake to resist in judicial proceedings any effort to obtain access to information pertaining to clients otherwise than as expressly provided for in the federal confidentiality regulations, 42 C.F.R. Part 2; and
- 3) Agree to use appropriate safeguards to prevent the unauthorized use or disclosure of the protected information.

d) Confidentiality Training

Contractor is required to conduct, complete and maintain record of annual confidentiality training by all staff serving or accessing PHI of BHRS clients. Contractor may utilize BHRS Confidentiality trainings located at <http://smchealth.org/bhrs/providers/ontrain>.

12. Site Certification

- a) Contractor will comply with all site certification requirements. Contractor shall maintain all applicable certifications through San Mateo County to provide any of the following reimbursable services: Short-Doyle Medi-Cal, MediCal, Medicare, or Drug MediCal.
- b) Contractor is required to inform BHRS Quality Management, in advance, of the following major changes:
  - i. Major leadership or staffing changes.
  - ii. Major organizational and/or corporate structure changes (example: conversion to non-profit status).
  - iii. Any changes in the types of services being provided at that location; day treatment or medication support services when medications are administered or dispensed from the provider site.
  - iv. Significant changes in the physical plant of the provider site (some physical plant changes could require a new fire or zoning clearance).
  - v. Change of ownership or location.
  - vi. Complaints regarding the provider.

13. Critical Incident Reporting

Contractor is required to submit Critical Incident reports to BHRS Quality Management on the same day of the incident or within 24 hours when there are unusual events, accidents, errors, violence or significant injuries requiring medical treatment for clients, staff or members of the community. (Policy #93-11 and 45 C.F.R. § 164, subpart C, in compliance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.316.)

The incident reports are confidential however discussion may occur with the Contractor regarding future prevention efforts to reduce the likelihood of recurrence. Contractor is required to participate in all activities related to the resolution of critical incidents, including but not limited to participation in quality improvement meetings, provision of all information requested by the County relevant to the incident, and Contractor staff cooperation.

#### 14. Ineligible Employees

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) requires that contractors comply with Federal requirements as outlined in 42 CFR (438.608) Managed Care Regulations. Contractors must identify the eligibility of employees, interns, or volunteers prior to hiring and on a monthly basis thereafter. Results of the eligibility screenings are to be maintained in the employee files. This process is meant to ensure that any person delivering services to clients of BHRS are not currently excluded, suspended, debarred or have been convicted of a criminal offense as described below. The Contractor must notify BHRS Quality Management (by completing the BHRS Critical Incident Reporting Form, Policy#93-11) should a current employee, intern, or volunteer be identified as ineligible. Contractors are required to screen for ineligible employees, interns, and volunteers by following procedures included in BHRS Policy # 19-08, which can be found online at: <https://www.smchealth.org/bhrs-policies/credentialing-and-re-credentialing-providers-19-08>. BHRS Quality Management must be notified within twenty-four (24) hours of any violations. Contractor must notify BHRS Quality Management if an employee's license is not current or is not in good standing and must submit a plan to correct to address the matter.

a. Credentialing Check – Initial

During the initial contract process, BHRS will send a packet of contract documents that are to be completed by the Contractor and returned to BHRS. Attachment A – Agency/Group Credentialing Information will be included in the contract packet. Contractor must complete Attachment A and return it along with all other contract forms.

b. Credentialing Check – Monthly

Contractor will complete Attachment A – Agency/Group Credentialing Information each month and submit the completed form to BHRS Quality Management via email at: [HS\\_BHRS\\_QM@smcgov.org](mailto:HS_BHRS_QM@smcgov.org) or via a secure electronic format.

## 15. Compliance Plan and Code of Conduct

Contractor will annually read and be knowledgeable of the compliance principles contained in the BHRS Compliance Plan and Code of Conduct located at <http://smchealth.org/bhrs-documents>. In addition, Contractor will assure that Contractor's workforce is aware of compliance mandates and informed of the existence and use of the BHRS Compliance Improvement Hotline (650) 573-2695.

Contractor is required to conduct, complete and maintain record of annual compliance training by all staff serving or accessing PHI of BHRS clients. Contractor may utilize BHRS Confidentiality trainings located at <http://smchealth.org/bhrs/providers/ontrain>.

## 16. Fingerprint Compliance

Contractor certifies that its employees, trainees, and/or its subcontractors, assignees, volunteers, and any other persons who provide services under this agreement, who have direct contact with any client will be fingerprinted in order to determine whether they have a criminal history which would compromise the safety of individuals with whom the Contractor's employees, trainees and/or its subcontractors, assignees, or volunteers have contact. Contractor shall have a screening process in place to ensure that employees who have positive fingerprints shall:

1. Adhere to CCR Title 9 Section 13060 (Code of Conduct) when providing services to individuals with whom they have contact as a part of their employment with the contractor; OR
2. Obtain an exemption from Community Care Licensing allowing the employee to provide services to individuals with whom they have contact as a part of their employment with the contractor.

A certificate of fingerprinting certification is attached hereto and incorporated by reference herein as Attachment E.

## 17. Minimum Staffing Requirements

Contractor shall have on file job descriptions (including minimum qualifications for employment and duties performed) for all personnel whose salaries, wages, and benefits are reimbursable in whole or in part under this Agreement. Contractor agrees to submit any material changes in such duties or minimum qualifications to County prior to implementing such changes or employing persons who do not meet the

minimum qualifications currently on file. Contractor service personnel shall be direct employees, contractors, volunteers, or training status persons.

#### 18. PROVIDER APPLICATION AND VALIDATION FOR ENROLLMENT (PAVE)

- a. Contractor shall ensure that all of its required clinical staff, who are rendering SMHS to Medi-Cal clients on behalf of Contractor, are registered through DHCS' Provider Application and Validation for Enrollment (PAVE) portal, pursuant to BHIN 20-071 requirements, the 21st Century Cures Act and the CMS Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Managed Care Final Rule.
- b. SMHS licensed individuals required to enroll via the "Ordering, Referring and Prescribing" (ORP) PAVE enrollment pathway (i.e. PAVE application package) available through the DHCS PED Pave Portal, include: Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT), Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC), Psychologist, Licensed Educational Psychologist, Physician (MD and DO), Physician Assistant, Registered Pharmacist/Pharmacist, Certified Pediatric/Family Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Practitioner, Occupational Therapist, and Speech-Language Pathologist. Interns, trainees, and associates are not eligible for enrollment.

#### B. Client Informing Materials

1. Contractor shall provide information in a manner and format that is easily understood and readily accessible to clients. (42 C.F.R. § 438.10(c)(1)) Contractor shall provide all written materials for clients in easily understood language, format, and alternative formats that take into consideration the special needs of clients in compliance with 42 C.F.R. § 438.10(d)(6). Contractor shall inform clients that information is available in alternate formats and how to access those formats in compliance with 42 C.F.R. § 438.10.
2. Contractor shall provide the required information in this section to each client receiving SMHS under this Agreement and upon request. (1915(b) Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services Waiver, § (2), subd. (d), at p. 26., attachments 3, 4; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 9, § 1810.360(e).)

3. Contractor shall utilize the County's website that provides the content required in this section and 42 C.F.R. § 438.10 and complies with all requirements regarding the same set forth 42 C.F.R. § 438.10.
4. Contractor shall use DHCS/County developed beneficiary handbook and client notices. (42 C.F.R. §§ 438.10(c)(4)(ii), 438.62(b)(3))
5. Client information required in this section may only be provided electronically by the Contractor if all of the following conditions are met:
  - a. The format is readily accessible;
  - b. The information is placed in a location on the Contractor's website that is prominent and readily accessible;
  - c. The information is provided in an electronic form which can be electronically retained and printed;
  - d. The information is consistent with the content and language requirements of this agreement;
  - e. The client is informed that the information is available in paper form without charge upon request and the Contractor provides it upon request within 5 business days. (42 C.F.R. § 438.10(c)(6).)
6. Language and Format
  - a. Contractor shall provide all written materials for potential clients and clients in a font size no smaller than 12 point. (42 C.F.R. 438.10(d)(6)(ii))
  - b. Contractor shall ensure its written materials that are critical to obtaining services are available in alternative formats, upon request of the client or potential client at no cost.
  - c. Contractor shall make its written materials that are critical to obtaining services, including, at a minimum, provider directories, beneficiary handbook, appeal and grievance notices, denial and termination notices, and the Contractor's mental health education materials, available in the prevalent non-English languages in the county. (42 C.F.R. § 438.10(d)(3))
  - d. Contractor shall notify clients, prospective clients, and members of the public that written translation is available in prevalent languages free of cost and how to access those materials. (42 C.F.R. § 438.10(d)(5)(i), (iii); Welfare & Inst. Code § 14727(a)(1); Cal. Code Regs. tit. 9 § 1810.410, subd. (e), para. (4))
  - e. Contractor shall make auxiliary aids and services available upon request and free of charge to each client. (42 C.F.R. § 438.10(d)(3)- (4))

- f. Contractor shall make oral interpretation and auxiliary aids, such as Teletypewriter Telephone/Text Telephone (TTY/TDY) and American Sign Language (ASL), available and free of charge for any language in compliance with 42 C.F.R. § 438.10(d)(2), (4)-(5).
  - g. Taglines for written materials critical to obtaining services must be printed in a conspicuously visible font size.
7. Beneficiary Informing Materials
- Each client must receive and have access to the beneficiary informing materials upon request by the client and when first receiving SMHS from Contractor. Beneficiary informing materials include but are not limited to:
- a. Guide to Medi-Cal Mental Health Services
  - b. County Beneficiary Handbook (BHIN 22-060)
  - c. Provider Directory
  - d. Advance Health Care Directive Form (required for adult clients only)
  - e. Notice of Language Assistance Services available upon request at no cost to the client
  - f. Language Taglines
  - g. Grievance/Appeal Process and Form
  - h. Notice of Privacy Practices
  - i. Early & Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) poster (if serving clients under the age of 21)
8. Contractor shall provide each client with a beneficiary handbook at the time the client first accesses services. The beneficiary handbook shall be provided to beneficiaries within 14 business days after receiving notice of enrollment.
9. Contractor shall give each client notice of any significant change to the information contained in the beneficiary handbook at least 30 days before the intended effective date of change as per BHIN 22-060.
10. Required informing materials must be electronically available on Contractor's website and must be physically available at the Contractor agency facility lobby for clients' access.
11. Informing materials must be made available upon request, at no cost, in alternate formats (i.e., Braille or Audio) and Auxiliary Aids (i.e., California Relay Service (CRS) 711 and American Sign Language) and must be provided to clients within five business days. Large print materials shall be in a minimum 18-point font size.

12. Informing materials will be considered provided to the client if Contractor does one or more of the following:

- a. Mails a printed copy of the information to the client's mailing address before the client first receives a specialty mental health service;
- b. Mails a printed copy of the information upon the client's request to the client's mailing address;
- c. Provides the information by email after obtaining the client's agreement to receive the information by email;
- d. Posts the information on the Contractor's website and advises the client in paper or electronic form that the information is available on the internet and includes applicable internet addresses, provided that clients with disabilities who cannot access this information online are provided auxiliary aids and services upon request and at no cost; or,
- e. Provides the information by any other method that can reasonably be expected to result in the client receiving that information. If Contractor provides informing materials in person, when the client first receives specialty mental health services, the date and method of delivery shall be documented in the client's file.

13. Provider Directory

- a. Contractor must follow the County's provider directory policy, in compliance with MHSUDS IN 18-020.
- b. Contractor must make available to clients, in paper form upon request and electronic form, specified information about the county provider network as per 42 C.F.R. § 438.10(h). The most current provider directory is electronically available on the County website and is updated by the County no later than 30 calendar days after information is received to update provider information. A paper provider directory must be updated as set forth in 42 C.F.R. § 438.10(h)(3)(i).
- c. Any changes to information published in the provider directory must be reported to the County within two weeks of the change.
- d. Contractor will only need to report changes/updates to the provider directory for licensed, waived, or registered mental health providers.

C. Client Rights

Contractor shall take all appropriate steps to fully protect clients' rights, as specified in Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 5325 et seq; Title 9

California Code of Regulations (CCR), Sections 861, 862, 883, 884; Title 22 CCR, Sections 72453 and 72527; and 42 C.F.R. § 438.100.

D. Cultural Competency

Implementations of these guidelines are based on the National Culturally and Linguistically Accessible Services (CLAS) Standards issued by the Department of Health and Human Services. For more information about these standards, please contact the Office of Diversity & Equity (ODE) at 650- 573-2714 or [ode@smcgov.org](mailto:ode@smcgov.org).

1. Out of county contractors must attest to compliance with all the pertinent cultural competence requirements in their host County contract. Out of county contractors shall submit the Office of Diversity & Equity ([ode@smcgov.org](mailto:ode@smcgov.org)) by March 31st, documentation of their compliance.

2. Technical Assistance

Contractors who are not able to comply with the cultural competence requirements will be asked to meet with the Program Manager and ODE ([ode@smcgov.org](mailto:ode@smcgov.org)) to plan for appropriate technical assistance.

E. Availability and Accessibility of Service

Contractor shall offer hours of operation that are no less than the hours of operation offered to commercial enrollees, if the Contractor also serves enrollees of a commercial plan, or that are comparable to the hours the Contractor makes available for Medi-Cal services that are not covered by the County or another Mental Health Plan, if the Contractor serves only Medi-Cal clients.

F. Surety Bond

Contractor shall retain and show proof of a bond issued by a surety company in accordance with Community Care Licensing's regulations for a licensee who may be entrusted with care and/or control of client's cash resources.

G. Telehealth

1. Contractor may use telehealth, when it deems clinically appropriate, as a mode of delivering behavioral health services in accordance with all applicable County, state, and federal requirements, including

those related to privacy/security, efficiency, and standards of care. Such services will conform to the definitions and meet the requirements included in the Medi-Cal Provider Manual: Telehealth, available in the DHCS Telehealth Resources page at: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/TelehealthResources.aspx>.

2. All telehealth equipment and service locations must ensure that client confidentiality is maintained.
3. Licensed providers and staff may provide services via telephone and telehealth as long as the service is within their scope of practice.
4. Medical records for clients served by Contractor under this Agreement must include documentation of written or verbal consent for telehealth or telephone services if such services are provided by Contractor. Such consent must be obtained at least once prior to initiating applicable health care services and consent must include all elements as specified in BHIN 22-019.
5. County may at any time audit Contractor's telehealth practices, and Contractor must allow access to all materials needed to adequately monitor Contractor's adherence to telehealth standards and requirements.

#### H. Chart Auditing and Reasons for Recoupment

##### **MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS**

Contractor shall maintain proper clinical and fiscal records relating to clients served under the terms of this Agreement, as required by the Director, DHCS, and all applicable state and federal statutes and regulations. Client records shall include but not be limited to admission records, diagnostic studies and evaluations, client interviews and progress notes, and records of services provided. All such records shall be maintained in sufficient detail to permit evaluation of the services provided and to meet claiming requirements.

##### **ACCESS TO RECORDS**

Contractor shall provide County with access to all documentation of services provided under this Agreement for County's use in administering this Agreement. Contractor shall allow County, CMS, the Office of the Inspector General, the Controller General of the United States, and any other authorized federal and state agencies to evaluate performance under this Agreement, and to inspect, evaluate, and audit any and all records, documents, and the premises, equipment and facilities maintained by the

Contractor pertaining to such services at any time and as otherwise required under this Agreement.

## **FEDERAL, STATE AND COUNTY AUDITS**

In accordance with the California Code of Regulations, Title 9, Chapter 11, Section 1810.380(a), County will conduct monitoring and oversight activities to review Contractor's SMHS programs and operations. The purpose of these oversight activities is to verify that medically necessary services are provided to clients, who meet medical necessity and criteria for access to SMHS as established in BHIN 21-073, in compliance with the applicable state and federal laws and regulations, and/or the terms of the Agreement between Contractor and County, and future BHINs which may spell out other specific requirements.

### **INTERNAL AUDITING**

1. Contractors of sufficient size as determined by County shall institute and conduct a Quality Assurance Process for all services provided hereunder. Said process shall include at a minimum a system for verifying that all services provided and claimed for reimbursement shall meet SMHS definitions and be documented accurately.
2. Contractor shall provide County with notification and a summary of any internal audit exceptions, and the specific corrective actions taken to sufficiently reduce the errors that are discovered through Contractor's internal audit process. Contractor shall provide this notification and summary to County in a timely manner.

### **CONFIDENTIALITY IN AUDIT PROCESS**

1. Contractor and County mutually agree to maintain the confidentiality of Contractor's client records and information, in compliance with all applicable state and federal statutes and regulations, including but not limited to HIPAA and California Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 5328. Contractor shall inform all of its officers, employees, and agents of the confidentiality provisions of all applicable statutes.
2. Contractor's fiscal records shall contain sufficient data to enable auditors to perform a complete audit and shall be maintained in conformance with standard procedures and accounting principles.
3. Contractor's records shall be maintained as required by the Director and DHCS on forms furnished by DHCS or the County. All statistical data or information requested by the Director shall be provided by the Contractor in a complete and timely manner

## **REASONS FOR RECOUPMENT**

1. County will conduct periodic audits of Contractor files to ensure appropriate clinical documentation, high quality service provision and compliance with applicable federal, state and county regulations.
2. Such audits may result in requirements for Contractor to reimburse County for services previously paid in the following circumstances:
  - a) Identification of Fraud, Waste or Abuse as defined in federal regulation.
  - b) Fraud and abuse are defined in C.F.R. Title 42, § 455.2 and W&I Code, section 14107.11, subdivision (d).
  - c) Definitions for “fraud,” “waste,” and “abuse” can also be found in the Medicare Managed Care Manual available at [www.cms.gov/Regulation-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Downloads/mc86c21.pdf](http://www.cms.gov/Regulation-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Downloads/mc86c21.pdf)
  - d) Overpayment of Contractor by County due to errors in claiming or documentation.
  - e) Other reasons specified in the SMHS Reasons for Recoupment document released annually by DHCS and posted on the DHCS BHIN website.
3. Contractor shall reimburse County for all overpayments identified by Contractor, County, and/or state or federal oversight agencies as an audit exception within the timeframes required by law or Country or state or federal agency.

## **COOPERATION WITH AUDITS**

1. Contractor shall cooperate with County in any review and/or audit initiated by County, DHCS, or any other applicable regulatory body. This cooperation may include such activities as onsite program, fiscal, or chart reviews and/or audits.
2. In addition, Contractor shall comply with all requests for any documentation or files including, but not limited to, client and personnel files.
3. Contractor shall notify the County of any scheduled or unscheduled external evaluation or site visits when it becomes aware of such visit. County shall reserve the right to attend any or all parts of external review processes.
4. Contractor shall allow inspection, evaluation and audit of its records, documents and facilities for ten years from the term end date of this Agreement or in the event Contractor has been notified that an audit or investigation of this Agreement has been commenced, until such time as the matter under audit or investigation has been resolved, including the exhaustion of all legal remedies, whichever is later pursuant to 42 C.F.R. §§ 438.3(h) and 438.2301(3)(i-iii).

I. Grievances, Appeals and Notices of Adverse Benefit Determination

1. All grievances (as defined by 42 C.F.R. § 438.400) and complaints received by Contractor must be immediately forwarded to the County's Quality Management Department or other designated persons via a secure method (e.g., encrypted email or by fax) to allow ample time for the Quality Management staff to acknowledge receipt of the grievance and complaints and issue appropriate responses.
2. Contractor shall not discourage the filing of grievances and clients do not need to use the term "grievance" for a complaint to be captured as an expression of dissatisfaction and, therefore, a grievance.
3. Aligned with MHSUDS IN 18-010E and 42 C.F.R. §438.404, the appropriate and delegated Notice of Adverse Benefit Determination (NOABD) must be issued by Contractor within the specified timeframes using the template provided by the County.
4. Add County specific information regarding which, if any NOABDs are delegated to Contractor.
5. NOABDs must be issued to clients anytime the Contractor has made or intends to make an adverse benefit determination that includes the reduction, suspension, or termination of a previously authorized service and/or the failure to provide services in a timely manner. The notice must have a clear and concise explanation of the reason(s) for the decision as established by DHCS and the County. The Contractor must inform the County immediately after issuing a NOABD.
6. Procedures and timeframes for responding to grievances, issuing and responding to adverse benefit determinations, appeals, and state hearings must be followed as per 42 C.F.R., Part 438, Subpart F (42 C.F.R. §§ 438.400 – 438.424).
7. Contractor must provide clients any reasonable assistance in completing forms and taking other procedural steps related to a grievance or appeal such as auxiliary aids and interpreter services.
8. Contractor must maintain records of grievances and appeals and must review the information as part of its ongoing monitoring procedures. The record must be accurately maintained in a manner accessible to the County and available upon request to DHCS.
9. Advanced Directives - Contractor must comply with all County policies and procedures regarding Advanced Directives in compliance with the requirements of 42 C.F.R. §§ 422.128 and 438.6(i) (1), (3) and (4).
10. Continuity of Care - Contractor shall follow the County's continuity of care policy that is in accordance with applicable state and federal regulations, MHSUDS IN 18-059 and any BHINs issued by DHCS for parity in mental health and substance use disorder benefits

subsequent to the effective date of this Agreement (42 C.F.R. § 438.62(b)(1)-(2).)

**J. COMPLIANCE PROGRAM, INCLUDING FRAUD PREVENTION AND OVERPAYMENTS**

1. Contractor shall have in place a compliance program designed to detect and prevent fraud, waste and abuse, as per 42 C.F.R. § 438.608(a)(1), that must include:
2. Written policies, procedures, and standards of conduct that articulate the organization's commitment to comply with all applicable requirements and standards under the Contract, and all applicable federal and state requirements.
3. A Compliance Office (CO) who is responsible for developing and implementing policies, procedures, and practices designed to ensure compliance with the requirements of this Agreement and who reports directly to the CEO and the Board of Directors.
4. A Regulatory Compliance Committee on the Board of Directors and at the senior management level charged with overseeing the organization's compliance program and its compliance with the requirements under the Agreement.
5. A system for training and education for the Compliance Officer, the organization's senior management, and the organization's employees for the federal and state standards and requirements under the Agreement.
6. Effective lines of communication between the Compliance Officer and the organization's employees.
7. Enforcement of standards through well-publicized disciplinary guidelines.
8. The establishment and implementation of procedures and a system with dedicated staff for routine internal monitoring and auditing of compliance risks, prompt response to compliance issues as they are raised, investigation of potential compliance problems as identified in the course of self-evaluation and audits, corrections of such problems promptly and thoroughly to reduce the potential for recurrence and ongoing compliance with the requirements under the Contract.
9. The requirement for prompt reporting and repayment of any overpayments identified.
10. Contractor must have administrative and management arrangements or procedures designed to detect and prevent fraud, waste and abuse of federal or state health care funding. Contractor must report fraud and abuse information to the County including but not limited to:
11. Any potential fraud, waste, or abuse as per 42 C.F.R. § 438.608(a), (a)(7),

12. All overpayments identified or recovered, specifying the overpayment due to potential fraud as per 42 C.F.R. § 438.608(a), (a)(2),
13. Information about changes in a client's circumstances that may affect the client's eligibility including changes in the client's residence or the death of the client as per 42 C.F.R. § 438.608(a)(3).
14. Information about a change in the Contractor's circumstances that may affect the network provider's eligibility to participate in the managed care program, including the termination of this Agreement with the Contractor as per 42 C.F.R. § 438.608(a)(6).
15. Contractor shall implement written policies that provide detailed information about the False Claims Act ("Act") and other federal and state laws described in section 1902(a)(68) of the Act, including information about rights of employees to be protected as whistleblowers.
16. Contractor shall make prompt referral of any potential fraud, waste or abuse to County or potential fraud directly to the State Medicaid Fraud Control Unit.
17. County may suspend payments to Contractor if DHCS or County determine that there is a credible allegation of fraud in accordance with 42 C.F.R. §455.23. (42 C.F.R. §438.608 (a)(8)).
18. Contractor shall report to County all identified overpayments and reason for the overpayment, including overpayments due to potential fraud. Contractor shall return any overpayments to the County within 60 calendar days after the date on which the overpayment was identified. (42 C.F.R. § 438.608 (a)(2), (c)(3)).
19. Contractor may adopt the County's Compliance Program.
20. Integrity Disclosures - Contractor must annually complete and submit the Form 700 Attestation [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HYkjf6TULGkexoUqEaNqdc9PHCuXa0g/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HYkjf6TULGkexoUqEaNqdc9PHCuXa0g/view?usp=drive_link)

**K. SITE INSPECTION**

Without limiting any other provision related to inspections or audits otherwise set forth in this Agreement, Contractor shall permit authorized County, state, and/or federal agency(ies), through any authorized representative, the right to inspect or otherwise evaluate the work performed or being performed hereunder including subcontract support activities and the premises which it is being performed. Contractor shall provide all reasonable assistance for the safety and convenience of the authorized representative in the performance of their duties. All inspections and evaluations shall be made in a manner that will not unduly delay the work.

**L. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**

1. County has the right to monitor the performance of this Agreement to ensure the accuracy of claims for reimbursement and compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.
2. Contractor must comply with the False Claims Act employee training and policy requirements set forth in 42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(68) and as the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services may specify.
3. Contractor agrees that no part of any federal funds provided under this Agreement shall be used to pay the salary of an individual per fiscal year at a rate in excess of Level 1 of the Executive Schedule at <https://www.opm.gov/> (U.S. Office of Personnel Management), as from time to time amended.
4. Federal Financial Participation is not available for any amount furnished to an Excluded individual or entity, or at the direction of a physician during the period of exclusion when the person providing the service knew or had reason to know of the exclusion, or to an individual or entity when the County failed to suspend payments during an investigation of a credible allegation of fraud [42 U.S.C. section 1396b(i)(2)].

**M. FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR PASS-THROUGH ENTITIES**

1. If County determines that Contractor is a “subrecipient” (also known as a “pass-through entity”) as defined in 2 C.F.R. § 200 et seq., Contractor represents that it will comply with the applicable cost principles and administrative requirements including claims for payment or reimbursement by County as set forth in 2 C.F.R. § 200 et seq., as may be amended from time to time. Contractor shall observe and comply with all applicable financial audit report requirements and standards.
2. Financial audit reports must contain a separate schedule that identifies all funds included in the audit that are received from or passed through the County. County programs must be identified by Agreement number, Agreement amount, Agreement period, and the amount expended during the fiscal year by funding source.
3. Contractor will provide a financial audit report including all attachments to the report and the management letter and corresponding response within six months of the end of the audit year to the Director. The Director is responsible for providing the audit report to the County Auditor.

4. Contractor must submit any required corrective action plan to the County simultaneously with the audit report or as soon thereafter as it is available. The County shall monitor implementation of the corrective action plan as it pertains to services provided pursuant to this Agreement.

N. **SANCTION AUTHORITY UNDER WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE SECTION 14197.7: ADMINISTRATIVE AND MONETARY SANCTIONS AND CONTRACT TERMINATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH PLANS (MHPs) AND DRUG MEDICAL ORGANIZED DELIVERY SYSTEM PLANS**

1. When a Behavioral Health Plan (BHP), such as that implemented by the County, or its subcontractor fails to meet the terms of its contract with DHCS (Contractual Obligations) or fails to comply with applicable state or federal laws or regulations, the state plan or approved waivers, or for other good cause, DHCS may impose administrative and/or monetary sanctions on the BHP. BHPs shall ensure that they and their subcontractors shall comply with all Contractual Obligations, and applicable state and federal laws and regulations, the state plan, and approved waivers.
2. If Contractor is found to be noncompliant and DHCS imposes a monetary sanction, Contractor must promptly reimburse the County upon request. Alternatively, the County may offset the sanctioned amount against any payments due or to become due under this or any other agreement.
3. Link to full Behavioral Health Information Notice (BHIN) <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/Documents/BHIN-25-023-Enforcement-Actions-for-MHPs-and-DMC-ODS-Plans.pdf>

## Attachment H

# Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Business Associate Requirements

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### DEFINITIONS

Terms used, but not otherwise defined, in this Schedule shall have the same meaning as those terms are defined in 45 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) sections 160.103, 164.304, and 164.501. All regulatory references in this Schedule are to Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations unless otherwise specified.

- a. **Business Associate.** "Business Associate" shall generally have the same meaning as the term "business associate" at 45 CFR 160.103, and in reference to the parties to this agreement shall mean Contractor.
- b. **Covered Entity.** "Covered entity" shall generally have the same meaning as the term "covered entity" at 45 CFR 160.103, and in reference to the party to this agreement shall mean County.
- c. **HIPAA Rules.** "HIPAA rules" shall mean the Privacy, Security, Breach Notification and Enforcement Rules at 45 CFR part 160 and part 164, as amended and supplemented by Subtitle D of the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.
- d. **Designated Record Set.** "Designated Record Set" shall have the same meaning as the term "designated record set" in Section 164.501.
- e. **Electronic Protected Health Information.** "Electronic Protected Health Information" (EPHI) means individually identifiable health information that is transmitted or maintained in electronic media; it is limited to the information created, received, maintained or transmitted by Business Associate from or on behalf of Covered Entity.
- f. **Individual.** "Individual" shall have the same meaning as the term "individual" in Section 164.501 and shall include a person who qualifies as a personal representative in accordance with Section 164.502(g).
- g. **Privacy Rule.** "Privacy Rule" shall mean the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information at 45 CFR Part 160 and Part 164, Subparts A and E.
- h. **Protected Health Information.** "Protected Health Information" (PHI) shall have the same meaning as the term "protected health information" in Section 160.103 and is limited to the information created or received by Business Associate from or on behalf of County.
- i. **Required By Law.** "Required by law" shall have the same meaning as the term "required by law" in Section 164.103.
- j. **Secretary.** "Secretary" shall mean the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services or his or her designee.
- k. **Breach.** The acquisition, access, use, or disclosure of PHI in violation of the Privacy Rule that compromises the security or privacy of the PHI and subject to the exclusions set forth in Section 164.402. Unless an exception applies, an impermissible use or disclosure of PHI *is presumed* to be a breach, unless it can be demonstrated there is a low

probability that the PHI has been compromised based upon, at minimum, a four-part risk assessment:

1. Nature and extent of PHI included, identifiers and likelihood of re-identification;
  2. Identity of the unauthorized person or to whom impermissible disclosure was made;
  3. Whether PHI was actually viewed or only the opportunity to do so existed;
  4. The extent to which the risk has been mitigated.
- l. **Security Rule.** "Security Rule" shall mean the Security Standards for the Protection of Electronic Protected Health Information at 45 CFR Part 160 and Part 164, Subparts A and C.
- m. **Unsecured PHI.** "Unsecured PHI" is protected health information that is not rendered unusable, unreadable, or indecipherable to unauthorized individuals through the use of a technology or methodology specified by the Secretary in relevant HHS guidance.
- n. **Security Incident.** "Security Incident" shall mean the attempted or successful unauthorized access, use, disclosure, modification, or destruction of information or interference with systems operations in an information system. "Security Incident" includes all incidents that constitute breaches of unsecured protected health information.

#### **OBLIGATIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF CONTRACTOR AS BUSINESS ASSOCIATE**

- a. Business Associate agrees to not use or further disclose Protected Health Information other than as permitted or required by the Agreement or as required by law.
- b. Business Associate agrees to use appropriate safeguards to comply with Subpart C of 45 CFR part 164 with respect to EPHI and PHI, and to prevent the use or disclosure of the Protected Health Information other than as provided for by this Agreement.
- c. Business Associate agrees to make uses and disclosures requests for Protected Health Information consistent with minimum necessary policy and procedures.
- d. Business Associate may not use or disclose protected health information in a manner that would violate subpart E of 45 CFR part 164.504 if used or disclosed by Covered Entity.
- e. Business Associate agrees to mitigate, to the extent practicable, any harmful effect that is known to Business Associate of a use or disclosure of Protected Health Information by Business Associate in violation of the requirements of this Agreement.
- f. Business Associate agrees to report to County any use or disclosure of Protected Health Information not authorized by this Agreement.
- g. Business Associate agrees to ensure that any agent, including a subcontractor, to whom it provides Protected Health Information received from, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of County, agrees to adhere to the same restrictions and conditions that apply through this Agreement to Business Associate with respect to such information.
- h. If Business Associate has Protected Health Information in a Designated Record Set, Business Associate agrees to provide access, at the request of County, and in the time and manner designated by County, to Protected Health Information in a Designated Record Set, to County or, as directed by County, to an Individual in order to meet the requirements under Section 164.524.

- i. If Business Associate has Protected Health Information in a Designated Record Set, Business Associate agrees to make any amendment(s) to Protected Health Information in a Designated Record Set that the County directs or agrees to make pursuant to Section 164.526 at the request of County or an Individual, and in the time and manner designed by County.
- j. Business Associate agrees to make internal practices, books, and records relating to the use and disclosure of Protected Health Information received from, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of County, available to the County at the request of County or the Secretary, in a time and manner designated by the County or the Secretary, for purposes of the Secretary determining County's compliance with the Privacy Rule.
- k. Business Associate agrees to document such disclosures of Protected Health Information and information related to such disclosures as would be required for County to respond to a request by an Individual for an accounting of disclosures of Protected Health Information in accordance with Section 164.528.
- l. Business Associate agrees to provide to County or an Individual in the time and manner designated by County, information collected in accordance with Section (k) of this Schedule, in order to permit County to respond to a request by an Individual for an accounting of disclosures of Protected Health Information in accordance with Section 164.528.
- m. Business Associate shall implement administrative, physical, and technical safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of EPHI that Business Associate creates, receives, maintains, or transmits on behalf of County.
- n. Business Associate shall conform to generally accepted system security principles and the requirements of the final HIPAA rule pertaining to the security of health information.
- o. Business Associate shall ensure that any agent to whom it provides EPHI, including a subcontractor, agrees to implement reasonable and appropriate safeguards to protect such EPHI.
- p. Business Associate shall report to County any Security Incident within three (3) business days of becoming aware of such incident. Business Associate shall also facilitate breach notification(s) to the appropriate governing body (i.e. HHS, OCR, etc.) as required by law. As appropriate and after consulting with County, Business Associate shall also notify affected individuals and the media of a qualifying breach.
- q. Business Associate understands that it is directly liable under the HIPAA rules and subject to civil and, in some cases, criminal penalties for making uses and disclosures of Protected Health Information that are not authorized by this Attachment, the underlying contract as or required by law.

#### **PERMITTED USES AND DISCLOSURES BY CONTRACTOR AS BUSINESS ASSOCIATE**

Except as otherwise limited in this Schedule, Business Associate may use or disclose Protected Health Information to perform functions, activities, or services for, or on behalf of, County as specified in the Agreement; provided that such use or disclosure would not violate the Privacy Rule if done by County.

## **OBLIGATIONS OF COUNTY**

- a. County shall provide Business Associate with the notice of privacy practices that County produces in accordance with Section 164.520, as well as any changes to such notice.
- b. County shall provide Business Associate with any changes in, or revocation of, permission by Individual to use or disclose Protected Health Information, if such changes affect Business Associate's permitted or required uses and disclosures.
- c. County shall notify Business Associate of any restriction to the use or disclosure of Protected Health Information that County has agreed to in accordance with Section 164.522.

## **PERMISSIBLE REQUESTS BY COUNTY**

County shall not request Business Associate to use or disclose Protected Health Information in any manner that would not be permissible under the Privacy Rule if so requested by County, unless the Business Associate will use or disclose Protected Health Information for, and if the Agreement provides for, data aggregation or management and administrative activities of Business Associate.

## **DUTIES UPON TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT**

- a. Upon termination of the Agreement, for any reason, Business Associate shall return or destroy all Protected Health Information received from County, or created, maintained, or received by Business Associate on behalf of County, that Business Associate still maintains in any form. This provision shall apply to Protected Health Information that is in the possession of subcontractors or agents of Business Associate. Business Associate shall retain no copies of the Protected Health Information.
- b. In the event that Business Associate determines that returning or destroying Protected Health Information is infeasible, Business Associate shall provide to County notification of the conditions that make return or destruction infeasible. Upon mutual agreement of the Parties that return or destruction of Protected Health Information is infeasible, Business Associate shall extend the protections of the Agreement to such Protected Health Information and limit further uses and disclosures of such Protected Health Information to those purposes that make the return or destruction infeasible, for so long as Business Associate maintains such Protection Health Information.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

- a. **Regulatory References.** A reference in this Schedule to a section in the HIPAA Privacy Rule means the section as in effect or as amended, and for which compliance is required.
- b. **Amendment.** The Parties agree to take such action as is necessary to amend this Schedule from time to time as is necessary for County to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Rule and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, Public Law 104-191.

- c. **Survival.** The respective rights and obligations of Business Associate under this Schedule shall survive the termination of the Agreement.
- d. **Interpretation.** Any ambiguity in this Schedule shall be resolved in favor of a meaning that permits County to comply with the Privacy Rule.
- e. **Reservation of Right to Monitor Activities.** County reserves the right to monitor the security policies and procedures of Business Associate.

# ATTACHMENT I

## Assurance of Compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as Amended

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The undersigned (hereinafter called "Contractor(s)") hereby agrees that it will comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, all requirements imposed by the applicable DHHS regulation, and all guidelines and interpretations issued pursuant thereto.

The Contractor(s) gives/give this assurance in consideration of for the purpose of obtaining contracts after the date of this assurance. The Contractor(s) recognizes/recognize and agrees/agree that contracts will be extended in reliance on the representations and agreements made in this assurance. This assurance is binding on the Contractor(s), its successors, transferees, and assignees, and the person or persons whose signatures appear below are authorized to sign this assurance on behalf of the Contractor(s).

The Contractor(s): (Check a, b, or c)

- a. Has no employees
- b. Employs fewer than 15 persons
- c. Employs 15 or more persons and, pursuant to section 84.7 (a) of the regulation (45 C.F.R. 84.7 (a), has designated the following person(s) to coordinate its efforts to comply with the DHHS regulation.

**Name of 504 Person:** David Wertheimer


**Name of Contractor(s):** 7th Ave Care Center LLC

**Street Address or P.O. Box:** 1171 7th Ave

**City, State, Zip Code:** Santa Cruz CA 95062

**I certify that the above information is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge**

**Signature:**

Signed by:  
  
B1FE1C12CFC84EC...

**Title of Authorized Official:** CEO

**Date:** 05/21/2026

\*Exception: DHHS regulations state that: "If a recipient with fewer than 15 employees finds that, after consultation with a disabled person seeking its services, there is no method of complying with (the facility accessibility regulations) other than making a significant alteration in its existing facilities, the recipient may, as an alternative, refer the handicapped person to other providers of those services that are accessible."