



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
Inter-Departmental Correspondence  
Health System



**Date:** March 21, 2013  
**Board Meeting Date:** May 21, 2013  
**Special Notice / Hearing:** None  
**Vote Required:** Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors, acting as the Governing Board of the In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority

**From:** Jean S. Fraser, Chief, Health System  
Lisa Mancini, Director, Aging and Adult Services

**Subject:** Agreement with Benefit Service Center

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Acting as the Governing Board of the In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority, adopt a Resolution waiving the Request for Proposals process and authorizing a superseding agreement with Benefit Service Center for ongoing dental and vision benefits for the independent providers of In-Home Supportive Services for the term of May 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, in an amount not to exceed \$600,000.

**BACKGROUND:**

On January 15, 2013, your Board, acting as the Governing Board of the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Public Authority (PA), adopted Resolution 72331 adopting the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) for the provision of salaries and benefits of the independent providers of IHSS for the term July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2014. Included in this MOU was the agreement that the PA would assume responsibility for the administration of the independent provider's benefits; a responsibility that had been SEIU's. SEIU had an agreement with Benefit Service Center (BSC) to provide dental and vision benefits for the independent providers. The Director of Aging and Adult Services (AAS) authorized agreement 57000-13-D020 with BSC for the provision of dental and vision benefits for the term January 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 to facilitate payments while AAS prepared the long term agreement to be brought before your Board for approval. Although the agreement term began in January, payment through the original agreement did not begin until March 2013. The average cost per month for the benefits ranges from \$35,000 to \$42,000 per month depending on the number of providers eligible for the insurance coverage.

**DISCUSSION:**

This new agreement will allow the PA to continue to provide uninterrupted dental and vision insurance coverage to independent providers of IHSS through BSC through the end of FY 2013-14. There have been no changes to the number of dental and vision slots or the premium per month.

We are requesting a waiver of the Request for Proposal process and a continuance of services with BSC for one year, during which time new negotiations or state regulations may initiate changes to the administration of benefits for the independent providers of IHSS.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the agreement and Resolution as to form. The Contractor meets insurance certification requirements. The Contractor has assured compliance with contract provisions that are required by County ordinance and administrative memoranda, including but not limited to insurance, non-discrimination and equal benefits.

The Health System requests your Board to authorize the Chief of the Health System or designee 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.

This agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Health Community by providing affordable dental and vision insurance to independent providers of IHSS. This benefit allows independent providers to stay healthy and continue their employment as caregivers to at-risk individuals. The services provided by the caregivers allow at-risk individuals to remain in the most independent setting possible. It is anticipated that 95% of at-risk individuals will be maintained in a least restrictive setting through case management.

**PERFORMANCE MEASURE:**

Measure	FY 2012-13 Estimate	FY 2013-14 Projected
Percent of at-risk individuals maintained in a least restrictive setting through case management	95%	95%

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The cost of this agreement will not to exceed \$600,000 for the term May 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. The payment provisions and levels of service in this agreement are essentially the same as the prior agreement as the number of insurance slots and the premium per month remain the same. The cost of the agreement will not exceed \$70,000 for FY 2012-13 and \$530,000 for FY 2013-14 which will be included in the PA FY 2013-14 Recommended Budget. Of this amount, \$447,700 (74.6%) is funded by the State and federal governments. The remaining \$152,300 (25.4%) is the County share which is paid for through Realignment funds and County General Funds.