



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Health System



Date: October 29, 2014
Board Meeting Date: December 9, 2014
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors
From: Jean S. Fraser, Chief, Health System
Stephen Kaplan, Director, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services
Subject: Agreement with Heart and Soul, Inc.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution authorizing an agreement with Heart and Soul, Inc. for consumer-run peer-support services, and health and wellness services for the term July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, in an amount not to exceed \$347,631.

BACKGROUND:

In 2002, the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health identified consumer-operated self-help peer-support services, through a consumer-run organization, as critical components of effective community mental health systems. As a key service strategy in the Mental Health Services Act requirements, these services are essential to supporting consumers as they progress through all phases of wellness/recovery, including periods of relapse. Peer-support services are cost effective and have been found to reach and engage mental health clients who otherwise may not be able to participate in community activity programs on their own. In 2009, Heart and Soul, Inc. was established as an independent 501(c)(3) consumer-run organization to provide consumer peer-support and self-help services in San Mateo County. Heart and Soul, Inc. has been working with Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) since its establishment.

In March 2012 BHRS released a Request for Proposals for peer-support self-help services through a consumer-run organization. Heart and Soul, Inc. submitted a proposal and was subsequently selected to provide these services.

DISCUSSION:

Heart and Soul, Inc. gives stigma reduction informational presentations and provides consumer-run peer-support services at five locations in the County. Through the Total Wellness Program, the contractor provides health and wellness groups, support, and

activities improving the health of seriously mentally ill individuals suffering from chronic health conditions. The peer-support self-help program averages 8,096 client visits annually and the Stamp-Out-Stigma program has thus far presented to 1,605 San Mateo County community members on Stigma and Discrimination.

The Resolution contains the County’s standard provisions allowing amendment of the County’s fiscal obligations by a maximum of \$25,000 (in aggregate).

The agreement and Resolution have been reviewed and approved by County Counsel as to form. The agreement is on the Continuing Resolution.

The agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Healthy Community by providing consumer-run peer-support services for adults and transition-age youth. BHRS provides a range of services to support consumers as they progress through all phases of wellness/recovery, and through periods of relapse. The provision of consumer-run peer-support services is one established level of support. Participation in peer-support services is an indicator of the clients’ commitment to improving their own wellness and recovery. An increase in unduplicated attendance indicates that the contractor is serving a larger audience and is being successful in reaching an underserved population. It is anticipated that there will be a 10% increase in unduplicated attendance for peer-support services.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):

Measure	FY 2013-14 Actual	FY 2014-15 Projected
Percentage of increase in unduplicated attendance for peer-support services.	*	10%

* This is a new measure. Results will be available in FY 2014-15.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of the agreement is July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. The amount of the agreement is not to exceed \$347,631. Of this amount, it is anticipated that sales tax through Realignment will fund \$225,904 and the Mental Health Services Act will fund \$11,332. The remaining \$110,125 is Net County Cost.

The payment provisions have been reduced by \$52,000 as compared to those of the prior agreement, reflecting the removal of this contract’s administrative oversight component due to staffing changes. (This component was added to a separate contract with the nonprofit organization Inspired at Work, which will be assuming the administrative function on behalf of Heart & Soul, Inc.)

Funds for these services are included in the BHRS FY 2014-15 Adopted Budget.