



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Health System



Date: November 3, 2015
Board Meeting Date: December 15, 2015
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Louise Rogers, Chief, Health System
Stephen Kaplan, Director, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services

Subject: Agreement with Mental Health Association of Alameda County for patients' rights services

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing an agreement with Mental Health Association of Alameda County for patients' rights services for the term July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018, in an amount not to exceed \$625,337.

BACKGROUND:

By statute the County is obligated to provide patients' rights advocacy services for all recipients of mental health services in San Mateo County. These services include patient hearing representation at Certification and Capacity Hearings in psychiatric inpatient facilities, complaint investigation and resolution, monitoring of mental health facilities, and outreach and training on advocacy topics for clients and providers. There are two inpatient facilities in the County where Capacity and Certification Hearings take place: Mills-Peninsula Hospital and San Mateo Medical Center.

In February 2015, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) released a Request for Interest (RFI) for patients' rights advocacy services. The Mental Health Association of Alameda County (MHA) was the only respondent to the RFI. MHA has provided these services for BHRS continuously since 2003.

DISCUSSION:

MHA will provide patients' rights advocacy services for all recipients of mental health services in San Mateo County. As required by statute, services will be provided to all County residents receiving mental health services, whether or not they are receiving services through BHRS. These patients' rights advocacy services will include: complaint investigation and resolution; compliance monitoring of facilities providing mental health services; training of staff in mental health facilities regarding patients'

rights, laws, regulations and policies; patient education services to comply with State requirements for advance directives; and patient representation at Certification Hearings and Capacity Hearings. The contractor will provide services through an office in San Mateo County.

This contract is late due to negotiations with contractor on rates for services.

The resolution contains the County's standard provision allowing amendments 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. This agreement is on the Continuing Resolution.

The agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Healthy Community by providing patients' rights advocacy services for individuals receiving inpatient mental health services in San Mateo County. It is anticipated that 96% of clients who receive services through this agreement will be interviewed and represented by contractor at capacity hearings.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):

Measure	FY 2015-16 Estimated	FY 2016-17 Projected
Percentage of certified patients who were interviewed and subsequently represented by contractor at capacity hearings	96% 161 Clients	96% 161 Clients

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of the agreement is July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018. The amount of this agreement is not to exceed \$625,337 for the three-year term. For FY 2015-16 the maximum obligation is \$205,703 and is funded 100% by sales tax through Realignment. There is no net county cost. Funds for these services are included in the BHRS FY 2015-16 Adopted Budget. Similar arrangements will be put in place for FY 2016-17 and FY 2017-18. The payment provisions and levels of service in the agreement are essentially the same as the prior agreement.