



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Health System



Date: July 27, 2015
Board Meeting Date: September 1, 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 Heart and Soul, Inc. for consumer-run peer-support services and health and wellness services

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, 2015 through June 30, 2016, in an amount not to exceed \$422,093.

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 strategy in the Mental Health Services Act requirements, these peer-support services are essential for 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, a Request for Proposal was released for consumer led/operated, self-help peer-support mental health services. Heart and Soul, Inc. submitted a proposal and was selected through this process to deliver 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.

Over the past year, BHRS has been working with Heart and Soul to strengthen its administrative, operational and programmatic design in order to better meet the needs of consumers. As a result, Heart and Soul is better positioned to deliver support to consumers that will facilitate the development of their self-care capabilities, provide stronger peer support opportunities, and enhance anti-stigma outreach and education.

Only two consumer-led organizations in San Mateo County exist: Voices of Recovery, which focuses on supporting individuals with primary substance use issues, and Heart and Soul, which focuses on those with seriously mental illnesses. Rather than issue an RFP for consumer led/operated self-help peer support mental health services at this time, BHRS is requesting a two-year waiver of the RFP process, in order to release the RFP in FY 2016-17 with services to start July 1, 2017.

This contract is late because BHRS, as a part of its due diligence for this agreement, needed to review the contractor's FY 14-15 units of service and costs, prior to finalizing this new contract for FY 15-16.

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. It is anticipated that 30 more clients will receive peer-support services.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):

Measure	FY 2014-15 Actual	FY 2015-16 Projected
Number of additional clients receiving peer-support services.	10% 25 more clients	10% 30 more clients

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of the agreement is July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. The amount of the agreement is not to exceed \$422,093 and is included in the BHRS FY 2015-16 Recommended Budget. Of this amount, it is anticipated that sales tax through Realignment will fund \$290,207 and the Mental Health Services Act will fund \$11,332. The remaining \$120,554 is net county cost.

The new agreement's do-not-exceed amount is \$82,000 more than the previous agreement, in order to cover the following: \$52,000 for additional administrative oversight due to staffing changes, \$20,000 in additional funds to the Stamp Out Stigma program, and \$10,000 in additional funds to Peer-Support Self-Help Services.