



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



**Date:** July 5, 2016  
**Board Meeting Date:** August 9, 2016  
**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 the California Health Facilities Financing Authority

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Director of Behavioral Health and Recovery Services to execute the Award Agreement from the California Health Facilities Financing Authority, granting \$966,642 in state funds for Serenity House – San Mateo County's crisis residential center, for the term of May 26, 2016 through December 31, 2017.

**BACKGROUND:**

Ensuring the safety of individuals experiencing a crisis, due in large part to a deterioration of their mental health, is a fundamental responsibility for the County. Without timely and appropriate interventions, such episodes can deteriorate, leading to law enforcement involvement, psychiatric hospitalization, or incarceration. In San Mateo County, there are a number of effective interventions to effectively assist individuals. However, one missing component of our crisis response system is a crisis residential facility for adults. There has not been any place of respite for people with mental health issues who need time away from their living situation. In response to this need, your Board approved Measure A funds and authorized the Health System to convert the former "receiving home" for abused and neglected children on the Health Campus (at the corner of Hacienda Street and 37th Avenue in San Mateo) into a crisis residential facility for people experiencing a psychiatric crisis.

The crisis residential center, named Serenity House, will offer individuals experiencing a psychiatric crisis a comprehensive program aimed at ameliorating their crisis, reengaging them in treatment, and developing a plan for their return to their current living situation if appropriate, or to an alternative stable environment. Enrollment into Serenity House will be voluntary. Services will be offered twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, for up to 10 adult clients.

**DISCUSSION:**

On May 31, 2016, the California Health Facilities Financing Authority informed Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) of its intent to award BHRS with a grant in the amount of \$966,642 to help defray construction/renovation costs. These funds are available for approved budgeted expenses incurred during the grant award period of May 26, 2016 through December 31, 2017.

BHRS requests your Board to authorize the Director of BHRS to execute this agreement and any amendments thereto and on behalf of the County.

The agreement and resolution have been reviewed and approved by County Counsel as to form.

The agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Healthy Community by providing respite center services for those individuals needing short-term mental health intervention. It is anticipated that 80% of clients will successfully avoid hospitalization while receiving respite center services.

**PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):**

Measure	FY 2016-17 Estimated	FY 2017-18 Projected
Percentage of clients who successfully avoid hospitalization while receiving respite services*	80% 200 clients out of 250	80% 200 clients out of 250

\* This is a new service. Baseline data has not yet been established.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The term of the agreement is May 26, 2016 through December 31, 2017. Grant funds in the amount of \$966,642 will be added to the BHRS FY 2016-17 Budget as a September budget change. There is no Net County Cost associated with this agreement.