



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Health System



Date: October 15, 2015
Board Meeting Date: December 8, 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 Free at Last for substance use disorder treatment services

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing an agreement with Free at Last for substance use disorder treatment services, for the term July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, in an amount not to exceed \$1,948,728.

BACKGROUND:

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) has contracted with Free at Last (FAL) for substance use disorder treatment and recovery services, serving children, families, adults and older adults for over 20 years. Services include outpatient and residential recovery services.

DISCUSSION:

FAL shall continue to provide substance use disorder treatment and recovery services to men, women, children and their families. FAL's outpatient and residential treatment programs are based on a social immersion model and are provided in a community-based and culturally appropriate environment. The goals for all clients are to establish a recovery based support system; address legal and medical issues; teach basic life skills such as communication, anger management, and conflict resolution; re-unify families and build parenting skills; help clients enter into job training and/or employment; and establish stable housing. In addition to these core goals, all clients set personal goals for their progress through treatment.

Under the Administrative Memorandum B-1, agreements that provide housing services and related supports are exempt from the Request for Proposals process. FAL is one of six residential treatment providers in the County.

BHRS agreements related to alcohol and other drug services are late because negotiations between the California Department of Health Care Services and the federal government regarding the Drug Medi-Cal waiver were not finalized until August 13, 2015. The implementation of this waiver is planned for summer of 2016. This Drug Medi-Cal waiver will allow providers such as FAL to bill for many more services than they were previously able.

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

The agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Healthy Community by providing individuals and families with prevention and treatment services to support recovery, which in turn contributes to the health and safety of communities throughout the County. Successful treatment discharge occurs when a program participant completes his/her treatment/recovery plan or when a participant is transferred to the next appropriate level of care. It is anticipated that 80% of clients will achieve a successful treatment discharge.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):

Measure	FY 2014-15 Actual	FY 2015-16 Projected
Program participants with a successful treatment discharge	85% * 52 clients	80% 90 clients **

* The FY 2014-15 actual result was better than the original target of 75%.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of the agreement is July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. The amount of the agreement is not to exceed \$1,948,728. Of this amount, the Substance Abuse and Prevention Treatment Block Grant will fund \$220,996, the Mental Health Services Act will fund \$31,404, Federal Financial Participation for Drug Medi-Cal will fund \$20,000, 2011 Realignment for aggregate Drug Court services will fund \$601,545, and \$1,074,783 is net county cost. Funds for these services are included in the BHRS FY 2015-16 Adopted Budget. The payment provisions and levels of service remain essentially the same as those of the prior agreement.