



County of San Mateo

Inter-Departmental Correspondence

Department: HEALTH

File #: 19-754

Board Meeting Date: 7/23/2019

Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Louise F. Rogers, Chief, San Mateo County Health
Scott Gilman, Director, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services

Subject: Amendment to the Agreement with Peninsula Family Service for Senior Peer Counseling Services

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing an amendment to the agreement with Peninsula Family Service to provide peer-led outreach and engagement for behavioral health technology interventions, increasing the amount by \$300,000 to an amount not to exceed \$1,599,568 with no change to the agreement term.

BACKGROUND:

On May 24, 2016, your Board approved an agreement with Peninsula Family Services (PFS) to provide senior peer counseling services for the term July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018, in an amount not to exceed \$612,784, with an option to renew for an additional two years.

On October 2, 2018, your Board approved an amendment to the agreement with PFS to extend the term through June 30, 2020, increasing the amount by \$686,784, to an amount not to exceed \$1,299,568 for the four-year term.

In December 2018, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) released a Request for Proposal seeking an agency to provide peer-led outreach and engagement for behavioral health technology interventions. The goal is to support older adults, especially those who struggle to connect with traditional in-person supports, in the use of web-based behavioral health interventions. These interventions include applications to engage, educate, and provide access to behavioral health services when needed.

In April and May 2018, BHRS held stakeholder meetings as part of its Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Three Year Plan development process, and various stakeholders voiced a need for new approaches to connect and engage individuals who are struggling to connect with traditional in-person supports.

On June 6, 2018, the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Recovery Commission (MHSARC) reviewed and recommended that your Board approve the MHA Innovation Plan to join a statewide County Behavioral Health Technology Collaborative (Tech Suite).

On August 7, 2018, your Board approved the MHA Three Year Plan and Annual Update, which included the Tech Suite project.

DISCUSSION:

The Tech Suite is a set of behavioral health technology solutions, including applications, with core features such as peer chat groups, one-on-one online peer support, and personalized avatar support including evidence-based wellness activities. It is intended to be a complimentary support system that offers a bridge to care, helps identify early warning signs of behavioral health needs, offers timely support if needed, requires less effort, and removes general barriers to seeking conventional behavioral health or wellbeing services. By participating in the statewide collaborative, San Mateo County will leverage the statewide investment, learnings, and infrastructure, including project management, evaluation, marketing, and procurement of app developers.

The Tech Suite prioritizes the role of peers as a key innovative driver of the project. For several years, BHRS has contracted with PFS to provide peer-led counseling and outreach to older adults. PFS will support the goals of the Tech Suite by conducting broad, culturally and linguistically appropriate outreach to hard-to-reach older adults (age 55 and older) throughout the County, including underserved geographical areas. PFS will promote the use of the Tech Suite web-based solution(s) by guiding and supporting users, including providing linkages to in-person services as needed. In order to implement this project, PFS program staff will recruit, train, and supervise a Peer Program Specialist and Peer Outreach Workers.

The resolution contains the County’s standard provisions allowing amendments of the County’s fiscal obligation by a maximum of \$25,000 (in aggregate). The amendment and resolution have been reviewed and approved by County Counsel as to form.

The amendment contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Healthy Community by providing services for isolated older adults who are struggling to connect with traditional in-person supports. It is anticipated that 15% of individuals engaged through outreach activities will sign up to use Tech Suite behavioral health technology solutions.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE:

Measure	FY 2019-2020 Projected
Percentage of individuals engaged through outreach activities that will sign up to use Tech Suite behavioral health technology solutions	15% 300/2,000 individuals

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of the agreement is July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2020. The amount of the agreement is not to exceed \$1,599,568 for the four-year-term. The amendment increases the contract maximum by \$300,000. Funds in the amount of \$300,000 will be included in the BHRS FY 2019-20

Recommended Budget and will be 100 percent funded by MHSA. There is no Net County Cost associated with this agreement.