



County of San Mateo

Inter-Departmental Correspondence

Department: HEALTH

File #: 20-418

Board Meeting Date: 6/23/2020

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: Agreement with Ever Well Health Systems, LLC for Residential Services for Mentally Ill Clients

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing an agreement with Ever Well Health Systems, LLC for residential services for mentally ill clients, for the term of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023, in an amount not to exceed \$2,804,295.

BACKGROUND:

Due to the lack of affordable housing and depletion of licensed Board and Care homes and Room and Board homes in San Mateo County, Behavioral and Recovery Services (BHRS) has not been able to identify any new housing resources within the County, in particular for its aging clients. Because of this, BHRS must consider placing clients in residential service facilities out of the area.

Ever Well Health Systems, LLC (EWHS) is an appropriate model/level of care for many clients with serious mental illnesses to experience life in the community and become de-institutionalized.

Because residential facilities services are limited in the County, under the B-1 Administrative Memorandum, the selection of providers of residential services for mental health clients is exempt from the Request for Proposals requirement.

DISCUSSION:

The agreement with EWHS is for the provision of 12 beds for San Mateo County residents. Through this agreement the Contractor will provide supervised housing, treatment, and rehabilitation services for clients with a co-occurring diagnosis. The services enable these clients to be treated in the community thus avoiding more costly acute and sub-acute psychiatric hospitalization.

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 agreement and resolution have been reviewed and approved by County Counsel as to form. The agreement is on the Continuing Resolution. The current health crisis and the need to insure the safety of clients and be responsive to emergency requests delayed negotiations with the vendor which caused this agreement to be late.

It is anticipated that 67% clients who receive locked psychiatric care will be maintained at the current level of care or discharged to a lower level of care.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE:

Measure	FY 2020-21 Estimate	FY 2021-22 Projected
Percentage of clients who receive locked psychiatric care that will be maintained at the current level of care or discharged to a lower level of care	67% 2 clients	67% 2 clients

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of the agreement is July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023. The amount of the agreement is not to exceed \$2,804,295 for the three-year term. Of that amount, \$934,765 has been included in the BHRS FY 2020-23 Recommended Budget. Of that amount, sales tax through Realignment will fund \$831,941. The Net County Cost will be \$102,824. Similar arrangements will be made for future years.