RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2016-387

MEETING: July 19, 2016

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Chevon Kothari, Human Services Director

RE: Quest Community Counseling Mental Health Provider Contract

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Approve an agreement with Quest Community Counseling Services in an amount not to exceed $80,000 to provide counseling services for mental health clients; and authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to sign the agreement.

Quest Community Counseling Services is a Medi-Cal certified provider and may provide counseling services to clients that have Medicare, Medi-Cal, and/or private insurance.

Medi-Cal clients referred to this contractor may be seen as long as necessary for the purpose of stabilization. Clients seen over a period of time must continue to meet medical necessity as evidenced by a yearly treatment plan update. All records for these referred clients must be kept in the Mariposa County Behavioral Health Anasazi Electronic Health Record (EHR) system. Case documentation that meets professional standards must be kept in the Anasazi system, including acceptable updated assessments, treatment plans and progress notes. Documentation will be monitored by the Behavioral Health Utilization Review Committee. All independent contractors will work under the guidelines established by the Mental Health Services Contract currently in effect between the Human Services Department and the State Department of Mental Health as outlined in Exhibit A of the contract.

MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD REVIEW:
In 2008 the Mariposa County Mental Health Board recommended that the Human Services Department consider contracting out to independent counselors those mental health clients who could benefit from a community counseling setting. Eligibility is to be decided on a case by case basis.

The purpose behind this recommendation from the Mental Health Board was to shift a less restrictive caseload from county staff to independent counselors. Under an independent contract, a community counselor is able to provide billable Medicare, Medi-Cal, and/or Private Insurance services to cover the costs of the contract. This will free up staff resources within the Department which can then be directed to more complex cases and help to reduce waiting lists for services.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The current agreement for this facility was approved by the Board on August 18, 2015, by Resolution Number 2015-409.

**ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:**
If the contract is not approved, we may have longer wait times for clients to be served.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**
This contract will continue to be paid within the Mental Health budget unit. There is no impact to the County General Fund.

**ATTACHMENTS:**
Quest Community Counseling Services PSA 2017 v3  (PDF)
Quest Community Counseling Services 2017 Exhibit A  (PDF)

**CAO RECOMMENDATION**
Requested Action Recommended

Mary Hodson, CAO  7/13/2016

**RESULT:** ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
**MOVER:** Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor
**SECONDER:** Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
**AYES:** Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Carrier