RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2012-428

MEETING: August 21, 2012

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jim Rydingsword, Human Services Director

RE: Joy McClure Mental Health Counseling Provider Contract

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Approve an Agreement with Joy McClure, LCSW, to provide counseling services as an independent contractor for mental health clients who have Medicare and/or private insurance in an amount not to exceed of $80,000 and authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to sign the Agreement. Clients will be referred to independent contractors after a) an intake assessment has been completed by Behavioral Health Services staff and b) the Behavioral Health Social Work Supervisor overseeing clinical staff has made a determination that the referral to an independent contractor is appropriate. 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 that contract.

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 based on their Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF) ratings. The GAF is a numeric scale (0 through 100) used by mental health clinicians and physicians to subjectively rate the social, occupational, and psychological functioning of adults, i.e.: how well or adaptively one is meeting various problems-in-living. Under these guidelines, the staff of Mariposa County Behavioral Health (MCBH) can refer those clients to an independent contractor. The clients that are to be referred to the MCBH provider shall have a GAF score that is mutually agreed upon by MCBH and the MCBH independent provider. This 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 Medi-Cal services. 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:
This contract is a renewal of last fiscal year’s contract approved by the Board on June 14, 2011, resolution 11-278.
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ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
This community provider contract will increase total Medicare billing through Mariposa County Behavioral Health. If the contract is not approved, total Medicare billing will be decreased, and County Behavioral Health productivity may be negatively affected.

FISCAL IMPACT:
These contract service providers are cost-neutral to Mariposa County because they generate offsetting revenue through the Medicare billing process. All other clients referred to this provider will be billed through her private practice and not reimbursable from Human Services. These independent contractors are responsible to provide for their own costs. The Department estimates that county staff will be able to increase revenue to the Department through increased billing, by billing at higher rates for more complex cases, and by increasing the frequency of visits by other clients; therefore, there is no anticipated current or future impact to the county general fund.

ATTACHMENTS:
Joy McClure Provider 2013 Contract (PDF)
Contractor attach A (Master) 6-8-2012 (4) (DOC)

CAO RECOMMENDATION
Requested Action Recommended

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Lee Stetson, District I Supervisor
SECONDER: Jim Allen, District V Supervisor
AYES: Stetson, Turpin, Bibby, Cann, Allen