

DEPARTMENT: Human Services

BY: James Rydingsword

PHONE: (209) 966-2000

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

It is respectfully requested that the Board of Supervisors: (1) approve a Mariposa County Behavioral Health contract with Donna Lerner, LCSW to provide counseling services as an independent contractor for mental health clients who have Mariposa County Medi-Cal and (2) sign a contract for FY2010-2011 and FY2011-2012.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

See attached memo.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

See attached memo.

Financial Impact? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Next FY Cost: \$60,000	Annual Recurring Cost: \$
Budgeted In Current FY? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partially	Funded in next fiscal year: \$60,000	
Amount in current Budget: \$20,000		List Attachments, number pages consecutively
Additional Funding Needed: \$ 0		(2) Contracts:
Source:		Board Memo, Page 1-2
Internal Transfer _____		Contract FY2010-2011, Pages 3-9
Unanticipated Revenue _____ 4/5's vote		Exhibit "A", Pages 10-13
Transfer Between Funds _____ 4/5's vote		Contract FY2011-2012, Pages 14-20
Contingency _____ 4/5's vote		Exhibit "A", Pages 21-23
<input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Other		

CLERK'S USE ONLY:

Res. No.: 11-215 Ord. No. _____
Vote - Ayes: 5 Noes: _____
Absent: _____
MW Approved
 Minute Order Attached No Action Necessary

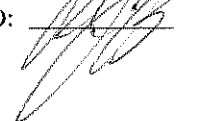
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

Requested Action Recommended
 No Opinion
Comments:

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Date: _____
Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California

By: _____
Deputy

CAO: 



**MARIPOSA COUNTY
HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

P.O. Box 99 • Mariposa, CA 95338 • (209) 966-2000 • Fax (209) 966-8251
□ Behavioral Health and Recovery Services

JAMES A. RYDINGSWORD, DIRECTOR



April 26, 2011

TO: Members; Board of Supervisors,
Rick Benson, CAO
FROM: James Rydingsword
RE: Independent provider contract

Recommendation

It is respectfully requested that the Board of Supervisors: (1) approve a Mariposa County Behavioral Health contract with Donna Lerner, LCSW to provide counseling services as an independent contractor for mental health clients who have Mariposa County Medi-Cal and (2) sign one (1) contract for FY2010-2011 and one (1) contract for FY2011-2012.

Background/Current Situation

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. It is further recommended that your Board approve a one-time payment, not to exceed \$2500.00 (Twenty-Five Hundred and no/100 Dollars) to assist Ms. Lerner set up a counseling office in the community. Such payments shall be restricted to first month's rent and security deposit and the one-time costs necessary to establish utility service to the office and will be paid from the Mental Health Services Act Workforce, Education, and Training funds recently approved for Mariposa County by the State Department of Mental Health. Referrals to this contract will be determined by the Human Services Social Work Supervisor overseeing clinical staff once an intake assessment has been completed by Behavioral Services staff. 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

Board Memo
D. Lerner
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staff resources within the Department which can then be directed to more complex cases and help to reduce waiting lists for services.

Financial

These contract service providers are cost-neutral to Mariposa County because they generate offsetting revenue through the Medi-Cal billing process. These independent contractors are responsible to provide for their own costs. Independent contractors are also able to provide services to private clients for whom they will be responsible to set up a billing and payment system separate from the Medi-Cal population. 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.