

DEPARTMENT: Human Services/BHRS

BY: James A. Rydingsword
PHONE: 966-2000

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: It is respectfully requested that the Board of Supervisors: (1) approve a Mariposa County Behavioral Health contract with Edith Ankersmit, LCSW, to provide counseling services as an independent community contractor for mental health clients who have Mariposa County Medi-Cal and/or Medicare and who have a Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF) score of 50 or above and (2) sign the contract. The contract is not to exceed \$80,000.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

See Attached

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

See Attached

Financial Impact? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Current FY Cost: \$	Annual Recurring Cost: \$
Budgeted In Current FY? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially Funded		
Amount in Budget: \$ <u>80,000</u>		List Attachments, number pages consecutively
Additional Funding Needed: \$ <u>0</u>		Page 1-2 Board Memo
Source:		Pages 3-9 Contract
Internal Transfer _____		Page 10-13 Exhibit A
Unanticipated Revenue _____ 4/5's vote		
Transfer Between Funds _____ 4/5's vote		
Contingency _____ 4/5's vote		
() General () Other		

CLERK'S USE ONLY:

Res. No.: 10-372 Ord. No. _____
 Vote - Ayes: 4 Noes: _____
 Absent: [Signature]
 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: [Signature]



MARIPOSA COUNTY
UMAN 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



July 27, 2010

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

Recommendation

It is respectfully requested that the Board of Supervisors: (1) approve a Mariposa County Behavioral Health contract with Edith Ankersmit, LCSW to provide counseling services as an independent community contractor for mental health clients who have Mariposa County Medi-Cal and/or Medicare and who have a Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF) score of 50 or above and (2) sign the contract. The contract is not to exceed \$80,000.

Background/Current Situation

Clients will be referred to independent community 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 community contractor is appropriate. All independent community 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 contracts, the staff of Behavioral Health can refer those clients with a GAF rating of 51-100 to community counselors. A GAF rating of 51-100 indicates clients functioning from moderate symptoms to superior functioning. Internally, we call this group the GAF 50+ population.

The purpose behind this recommendation from the Mental Health Board was to shift a less restrictive caseload from county staff to independent community counselors. Under an independent contract, a community counselor is able to provide billable Medi-Cal and/or Medicare 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.

Financial

These contract service providers are cost-neutral to Mariposa County because they generate offsetting revenue through the Medi-Cal and/or Medicare billing process. These independent community contractors are responsible to provide for their own costs. Independent community

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 and Medicare GAF 50+ 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 clients in the lower GAF 1-50 range; therefore, there is no anticipated current or future impact to the county general fund.