

## STAFF REPORT

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** May 27, 2025

**CATEGORY:** Consent Calendar 9

**SUBJECT:** Approve a retroactive amendment to the agreement with the Regents of the University of California, dba University of California, Davis, for psychological evaluations, adoption psychological evaluations, psychotherapy, parent and child bonding assessments and sibling assessments which increases rates and extends the term.

**DEPARTMENT:** Health and Human Services Agency-Behavioral Health and Social Services

**SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT #:** All

**DEPARTMENT CONTACT:** Bailey Cogger, HHSA Deputy Branch Director - Behavioral Health and Social Services, (530) 225-5900

**STAFF REPORT APPROVED BY:** Cindy Lane, MSW, HHSA Branch Director - Behavioral Health and Social Services

<u>Vote Required?</u>	<u>General Fund Impact?</u>
Simple Majority Vote	No Additional General Fund Impact

### RECOMMENDATION

Approve a retroactive amendment to the agreement with Regents of the University of California, dba University of California, Davis (UC Davis), for psychological evaluations, adoption psychological evaluations, psychotherapy, parent and child bonding assessments and sibling assessments, which increases the hourly rates by \$50 each and extends the term by one year, beginning March 12, 2025, and ending March 11, 2026, while maintaining the original maximum compensation of \$120,000 for the entire contract term of March 12, 2024 through March 11, 2026.

### DISCUSSION

UC Davis provides Individual Psychological Evaluations, Adoption Psychological Evaluations, Psychotherapy, Parent/Child Bonding Assessments and Sibling Assessments for youth and parents as ordered by the juvenile dependency court.

Under the terms of this agreement UC Davis licensed psychologists will administer court-ordered psychological tests, conduct structured interviews, and review available records and documentation to evaluate for the presence of psychological disorders or personality characteristics that may have an impact upon an individual's behavior, with respect to their parenting skills.

UC Davis also will conduct Parent/Child Bonding Assessments to determine the nature and quality of the child's relationship with birth and/or resource parents, often to address the question of who occupies the position of greatest centrality for the child's wellbeing. This is roughly equivalent to determining which adult(s) serve as the psychological parent to the child.

Behavioral Health and Social Services has conducted multiple competitive procurement cycles in the past seeking additional providers with limited to no responses. Due to these failed attempts, this amendment to the current agreement is retroactive in order to allow for the County to pay for the services which the University has been providing since March 12, 2025, and continued services through March 11, 2026.

### ALTERNATIVES

The Board could choose not to approve this agreement, defer consideration to a future date, or provide alternate direction to staff. If the Board chooses not to approve this agreement, defers consideration to a future date, or provides alternate direction to staff, the Health and Human Services Agency Behavioral Health and Social Services Branch will be required to continue to utilize non-contracted Psychiatrists to conduct these Court ordered evaluations which increases risk to County.

**OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT**

County Counsel has approved the agreement as to form. Risk Management has approved the agreement. The recommendation has been reviewed by the County Administrative Office. Shasta County Probation has reviewed and approved the agreement.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Costs of the services delivered via this contract on a fee-for-service basis are included in the Child Welfare Services allocation (BU 501) Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget, which requires a County-share of cost met largely through Realignment. Additional appropriations and expenditures will be included in future year budget requests.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1: UC Davis Amendment