

STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE:	October 17, 2023
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CATEGORY: Consent Calendar 10

SUBJECT: Approve a retroactive renewal agreement with Wayfinder Family Services for youth specialty mental health services in an amount not to exceed \$1,950,000, and designate signing authority to terminate the agreement.

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

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT #: All

DEPARTMENT CONTACT: Miguel Rodriguez, Director of Mental Health, Behavioral Health & Social Services

STAFF REPORT APPROVED BY: Miguel Rodriguez, HHSA Branch Director

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

RECOMMENDATION

Take the following actions: (1) Approve a retroactive renewal agreement, effective July 1, 2023, with Wayfinder Family Services in an amount not to exceed \$1,950,000 for youth specialty mental health services for eligible children for the period July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2026; and (2) designate authority to the County Executive Officer or their designee to terminate this agreement, provided County Counsel concurs, and all other conditions are met.

DISCUSSION

The proposed agreement will allow Wayfinder Family Services, (Wayfinder) to provide youth specialty mental health services to Medi-Cal eligible clients, their family members and care providers in Shasta County during Fiscal Years 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26.

The Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services Request for Proposal released December 9, 2022, received four proposals and selected all providers (Northern Valley Catholic Social Services, His Ideas, Inc. dba Children First Foster Family Agency, Victor Community Support Services and Wayfinder Family Services). Proposals submitted were evaluated for five critical areas: Technical / Program Design, Organization Capacity, Relevant Experience, Budget, and Performance Measures. Each of the five criteria were considered and rated by a 3-person evaluation panel whose scores were then applied to a weighted scale resulting in each proposal's total score.

The Shasta County Managed Care Plan has a responsibility to provide mental health services to eligible Medi-Cal Beneficiaries. Per Shasta County Mental Health Plan 22-20136, no person shall be denied medically necessary covered specialty mental health service solely because of diagnosis, type of illness, or condition. Per Government Code Section 11135, no person on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, mental disability, physical disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, or sexual orientation, may be unlawfully denied full and equal access to the benefits of, or be unlawfully subjected to discrimination under any program or activity that is conducted, operated, or administered by the state or by any state agency or is funded directly by or receives any financial assistance from the state.

Resulting from a recent competitive procurement cycle for mental health services, the proposed agreement will allow Wayfinder to provide medically necessary specialty mental health services to children, adolescents and young adults (up to 21 years of age) who fall within Shasta County's eligible population. Wayfinder will provide both clinic-based and community-based services, including Medication Support.

Wayfinder has been providing medically necessary mental health services for the past 3 years to eligible Shasta County clients and meets specific requirements to ensure maximum access to services for Shasta County clients and their families, including children placed in foster care. The Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) has oversight processes in place and has been satisfied with their performance. Continual performance monitoring includes evaluating client outcomes by the implementation of the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) tool as well as progress towards individual treatment goals.

Through this agreement, Wayfinder will continue to provide a variety of specialty mental health services including but not limited to: Case Management, Crisis Intervention, Rehabilitation and Medication Management as part of treatment services for children who are Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

The agreement is retroactive due to the time needed to for all parties to negotiate the agreement terms under the new payment reform implemented from the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) by the State and the late release of the State's payment reform rates.

Delegation and designation of authority to terminate this agreement allows for timely termination of this agreement by the CEO or their designee directly, in the event the consultant is unable to meet expectations, funding is no longer available, or services are no longer necessary, without having to return to the Board.

ALTERNATIVES

The Board may choose not to approve this agreement defer consideration to a future date, provide alternate direction to staff, or approve one or only part of the recommended actions. If the Board chooses to not execute the agreement, youth currently receiving services may be redirected to less desirable out-of-county providers, if any are available, and services already provided by the Wayfinder during the retroactive period would remain unpaid.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

County Counsel has approved the agreement as to form. Risk Management has approved the agreement. Support Services-Purchasing Unit administered the competitive procurement process and has reviewed the agreement. The recommendation has been reviewed by the County Administrative Office.

FISCAL IMPACT

The maximum compensation amount of the proposed agreement is included in the Mental Health (BU 410) Fiscal Year 2023-24 Recommended Budget. Specialty mental health services are funded through a combination of federal Medicaid funds (approx. 50%) with a county match which is largely met through a combination of 1991 and 2011 realignment revenue.

ATTACHMENTS:

1: Renewal Agreement