



OFFICE OF THE AGENCY DIRECTOR

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May 9, 2023

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
Administration Building
1221 Oak Street
Oakland, CA 94612

SUBJECT: APPROVE A MASTER CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH CITY OF BERKELEY FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Approve an Amendment for City of Berkeley (Principal: Dee Williams-Ridley; Location: Berkeley; Master Contract No. 900161) to continue the provision of behavioral health programs and document changes to existing rates to reflect new rates set by the California Department of Health Care Services effective 07/01/2023 for this ongoing master contract, with no financial impact; and
- B. Delegate authority to the Health Care Services Agency Director, or designee, to negotiate and execute the amendment through the Community Based Organization master contract process subject to review and approval as to form by County Counsel and submit an executed copy to the Clerk of the Board for filing.

DISCUSSION/SUMMARY

Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services (ACBH) is requesting approval of this amendment to document new rates set by the California Department of Health Care Services under California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) payment reform. On November 1, 2011 (Item No. 7), your Board approved a Master contract between ACBH and the City of Berkeley to continue unless notice to terminate is given by either party. ACBH brings any subsequent amendments to your Board, such as this one, for approval should subsequent modifications to the master contract be needed.

Starting in 1997, the State of California transferred responsibility and funding to counties for the operation of local Mental Health Plans (MHPs) for Specialty Mental Health Services for Medi-Cal beneficiaries. Alameda County's MHP includes all regions and cities of the County. ACBH is responsible for managing claiming and management of funds under the MHP. The City of Berkeley was a semi-independent entity and as such, directly receives a specific allocation of 1991 Realignment funds and Mental Health Service Act (MHSA) funds.

For many years, ACBH and the City of Berkeley have maintained close collaboration around behavioral health programs to promote coordinated service delivery and efficient generation of offsetting revenue. This relationship was memorialized in a Memorandum of Understanding between ACBH and City of Berkeley in November 1997. The State required ACBH to take on an increasing role of oversight for mental health programs

operated by City of Berkeley, including taking on the responsibility for site certification for Specialty Mental Health services.

This increase of oversight responsibilities requires Alameda County to maintain a contractual arrangement with City of Berkeley. Under this Master Contract Amendment, ACBH and City of Berkeley will continue to generate offsetting revenue to support these programs through sources such as Medi-Cal and Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA). ACBH will continue to be responsible for the processing of Medi-Cal and MAA claims to the State and will act as a fiscal pass-through of funds to City of Berkeley. The City of Berkeley will continue to support program costs not covered by these revenue streams through other funds, including but not limited to 1991 Realignment, Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), and City of Berkeley General Funds. Due to these funding relationships and sources, this contractual partnership between ACBH and City of Berkeley is not expected to increase costs to the County.

Your Board's approval of this master contract amendment will allow continuation of revenue generation to offset the cost of outpatient services by City of Berkeley to ensure that residents of Berkeley will continue to receive needed behavioral health services. Your Board's approval will not change the amount or type of contracted services under payment reform. These programs served approximately 500 clients in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22, and it is not anticipated that there will be any change in the number of clients served as a result of this amendment. On January 10, 2023 (Item No. 8), your Board approved delegation of authority for the prior master contract amendment effective July 1, 2022 due to the complex nature of conducting this type of business with another local governmental jurisdiction.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The City of Berkeley has been and is currently receiving funding from ACBH pursuant to the pass-through conditions of the MHP. As a governmental entity, City of Berkeley is exempt from the County Small, Local and Emerging Business (SLEB) requirements.


FINANCING

ACBH will generate revenue on behalf of City of Berkeley and forward those revenues less an administrative fee. No additional appropriation is required and there will be no increase in net County costs as a result of your approval.

VISION 2026 GOAL

The contractual relationship between ACBH and City of Berkeley for behavioral health programs meets the 10X goal pathways of **Healthcare for All** in support of the shared vision of a **Thriving and Resilient Population**.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Colleen Chawla, Director
Health Care Services Agency

CC/WV/ba