



# COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 5/23/2023

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File #: 23-642

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**To:** Board of Supervisors

**From:** DHHS: Behavioral Health

**Agenda Section:** Consent

**Vote Requirement:** Majority

**SUBJECT:**

Signature Authorization for Mental Health Organizational Provider Services Agreements with Licensed Specialty Mental Health Service Providers Regarding the Provision of Specialty Mental Health Services to Eligible Medi-Cal Beneficiaries Residing in Humboldt County

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the attached mental health organizational provider services agreement template regarding the provision of specialty mental health services to eligible Medi-Cal Beneficiaries residing in Humboldt County;
2. Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Director, or a designee thereof, to execute mental health organizational provider services agreements that are substantially similar to the attached mental health organizational provider services agreement template, and any and all amendments thereto, after review and approval by County Counsel, Risk Management and the County Administrative Office; and
3. Direct the Clerk of the Board to provide the Department of Health and Human Services - Contract Unit with one (1) fully executed certified copy of the Board order related to this item.

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

Behavioral Health Fund - (1170-424)

**DISCUSSION:**

The Board of Supervisors has authorized the Department of Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health (“DHHS - Behavioral Health”) to operate the County of Humboldt’s Mental Health Plan. The provision of specialty mental health services, which include, without limitation, assessment, individual therapy, family therapy, group therapy, case management, crisis intervention, behavioral health plan development, behavioral health rehabilitation, medication support and intensive care coordination services, to all Medi-Cal beneficiaries residing in Humboldt County that meet necessary criteria is, and will remain, the responsibility of DHHS - Behavioral Health. Therefore, since April 1998, DHHS - Behavioral Health has contracted with qualified specialty mental health service providers who have

historically serviced Medi-Cal beneficiaries residing in Humboldt County. DHHS - Behavioral Health has established a provider network with in-county as well as out-of-county providers for referrals of Medi-Cal beneficiaries residing in Humboldt County to ensure that such beneficiaries have a choice of appropriate providers.

The State of California recently began implementation of the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (“CalAIM”) initiative in an effort to make Medi-Cal services more accessible, equitable and person-centered. Part of CalAIM’s objectives is to “align funding, data reporting, quality and infrastructure to mobilize and incentivize progress toward common goals.” This has resulted in the state requiring changes to the payment structure of DHHS - Behavioral Health’s mental health organizational provider services agreements with specialty mental health services providers. However, while counties are required to update their mental health organizational provider services agreements by July 1, 2023, the state has not yet completed their instructions delineating all of the changes that will need to be made or how such changes are to be implemented.

DHHS - Behavioral Health has developed the attached mental health organizational provider services agreement template based on the direction that has been received by the state, and intends to use this template with all specialty mental health service providers that currently contract with the County of Humboldt for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. As further clarification and direction is received by the state, DHHS - Behavioral Health will amend its mental health organizational provider services agreements, as needed.

Accordingly, DHHS - Behavioral Health recommends that the Board approve, and authorize the DHHS - Behavioral Health Director, a designee thereof, to execute mental health organizational provider services agreements that are substantially similar to, the attached mental health organizational provider services agreement template regarding the provision of specialty mental health services to eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries residing in Humboldt County, and any and all amendments thereto, after review and approval by County Counsel, Risk Management and the County Administrative Office.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

<b>Expenditures (1170424, 1170477)</b>	<b>FY22-23 Adopted</b>	<b>FY23-24 Projected</b>	<b>FY24-25 Projected</b>
Budgeted Expenses	8,566,428	\$10,251,057	10,251,057
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>8,566,428</b>	<b>10,251,057</b>	<b>10,251,057</b>
<b>Funding Sources (1170424)</b>	<b>FY22-23 Adopted</b>	<b>FY23-24 Projected*</b>	<b>FY24-25 Projected*</b>
State/Federal Funds	8,566,428	10,251,057	10,251,057
<b>Total Funding Sources</b>	<b>8,566,428</b>	<b>10,251,057</b>	<b>10,251,057</b>

*\*Projected amounts are estimates and are subject to change.*

Expenditure appropriations for the provision of specialty mental health services in the amount of Ten Million Two Hundred Fifty-One Thousand Fifty-Seven Dollars (\$10,251,057.00) have been included

in proposed fiscal year 2023-2024 budgets for DHHS - Behavioral Health Administration budget unit 1170-424 and DHHS - Behavioral Health Mental Health Services Act budget unit 1170-477. Specialty mental health services provided pursuant to the terms and conditions of mental health organizational provider services agreements will be billed to Medi-Cal and reimbursed. DHHS - Behavioral Health covers the match portion of any billings that are not covered through the reimbursement process.

**STAFFING IMPACT:**

Approval of the attached mental health organizational provider services agreement template will not impact current staffing levels.

**STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:**

The recommended actions support the Board of Supervisors' Strategic Framework by protecting vulnerable populations, creating opportunities for improved safety and health and providing community-appropriate levels of service.

**OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:**

None

**ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Board may choose not to approve, or authorize the DHHS - Behavioral Health Director, or a designee thereof, to execute mental health organizational provider services agreements that are substantially similar to, the attached mental health organizational provider services agreement template regarding the provision of specialty mental health services to eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries residing in Humboldt County. However, this alternative is not recommended since it will severely limit DHHS - Behavioral Health's ability to comply with applicable CalAIM requirements.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Mental Health Organizational Provider Services Agreement Template

**PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:**

Board Order No.: C-7, C-9, D-22, D-13, D-9, D-22, D-26, D-12, D-16

Meeting of: 5/5/20, 6/2/20, 6/29/21, 11/16/21, 6/7/22, 6/28/22, 6/28/22, 7/12/22, 9/20/22

File No.: 20-482, 20-583, 21-543, 21-1110, 22-645, 22-721, 22-833, 22-835; 22-1136