



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 5/7/2024

File #: 24-729

To: Board of Supervisors

From: DHHS: Behavioral Health

Agenda Section: Consent

Vote Requirement: Majority

SUBJECT:

Health Information Exchange Participation Agreement with SacValley MedShare Regarding the Provision of Data Transmission Services

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve, and authorize the Department of Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Director, or a designee thereof, to execute, the attached health information exchange participation agreement with SacValley MedShare regarding the provision of certain data transmission services; and
2. Authorize the Behavioral Health Director, or a designee thereof, to execute any and all subsequent amendments to, and any other agreements, certifications, attestations and documents directly associated with, the attached health information exchange participation agreement with SacValley MedShare, 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 fully executed, certified copy of the Board order related to this item.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Behavioral Health Fund (1170-424)

DISCUSSION:

SacValley MedShare is a California nonprofit corporation that operates a hosted internet-based health information exchange system that provides an interface for the secure transfer of electronic health information between participants using otherwise incompatible computer systems. The hosted health information exchange system operated by SacValley MedShare serves the region comprised of Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Lake, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Yolo, and Yuba counties, which covers over 50,000 square miles and has a population of over 2.6 million people.

The attached health information exchange participation agreement with SacValley MedShare will allow the Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health (DHHS - Behavioral Health) to access needed data transmission services related to mental health treatment, and/or obtaining payment for mental health treatment, provided thereby. It should be noted that the attached health information exchange participation agreement with SacValley MedShare does not contain a fixed term and will not expire until terminated in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth therein.

Accordingly, DHHS - Behavioral Health recommends that the Board approve, and authorize the DHHS - Behavioral Health Director, or a designee thereof, to execute, the attached health information exchange participation agreement with SacValley MedShare regarding the provision of certain data transmission services. Staff also recommends that the Board authorize the Behavioral Health Director, or a designee thereof, to execute any and all subsequent amendments to, and any other agreements, certifications, attestations and documents directly associated with, the attached health information exchange participation agreement with SacValley MedShare, after review and approval by County Counsel, Risk Management and the County Administrative Office, in order to avoid any unnecessary delays in the provision of needed data transmission services.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Expenditures (1170-424)	FY23-24	FY24-25 Projected	FY25-26 Projected
Budgeted Expenses	\$30,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Total Expenditures	\$30,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Funding Sources (1170-424)	FY23-24 Adopted	FY24-25 Projected*	FY25-26 Projected*
State/Federal Funds	\$30,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Total Funding Sources	\$30,000	\$10,000	\$10,000

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

The attached health information exchange participation agreement with SacValley MedShare has a maximum amount payable of \$30,000 for the period of May 7, 2024 through Dec. 31, 2024, along with a recurring annual fee of \$10,000 for each subsequent calendar year thereafter until the attached health information exchange participation agreement is terminated pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth therein. Expenditure appropriations related to the attached health information exchange participation agreement with SacValley MedShare have been included in the approved fiscal year 2023-2024 budget for DHHS - Behavioral Health budget unit 1170-424. Funding related to the attached participation agreement is available from federal and state financial participation for Medi-Cal administration and Behavioral Health Realignment.

STAFFING IMPACT:

Approval of the attached health information exchange participation agreement with SacValley MedShare will not impact current staffing levels.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:

The recommended actions support the following areas of the Board of Supervisors' Strategic

Framework:

Core Roles: Protect vulnerable populations

New Initiatives: Provide community-appropriate levels of service

Strategic Plan: 3.3 - Utilize innovative technology (e.g. energy independence, sustainable biomass management and transpacific cable)

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board may choose not to approve the attached health information exchange participation agreement with SacValley MedShare regarding the provision of certain data transmission services. However, this alternative is not recommended since it will not allow DHHS - Behavioral Health to remain in compliance with the standards regarding exchange of protected health information.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Health Information Exchange Participation Agreement with SacValley MedShare Regarding the Provision of Data Transmission Services

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.: N/A

Meeting of: N/A

File No.: N/A