



# COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 6/6/2023

---

File #: 23-403

---

**To:** Board of Supervisors

**From:** DHHS: Behavioral Health

**Agenda Section:** Consent

**Vote Requirement:** Majority

**SUBJECT:**

Professional Services Agreement with Preferred Healthcare Registry, Inc. Regarding the Provision of Licensed Personnel to Fill the Senior Activity Therapist, Supervising Mental Health Clinician, and Mental Health Clinician Positions at the County of Humboldt's Psychiatric Health Facility

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve, and authorize the Chair of the Board to execute, the attached professional services agreement with Preferred Healthcare Registry, Inc. regarding the provision of licensed personnel to fill the Senior Activity Therapist, Supervising Mental Health Clinician and Mental Health Clinician positions at the County of Humboldt's Psychiatric Health Facility for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025;
2. Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Director, or a designee thereof, to execute any and all subsequent amendments to the attached professional services agreement with Preferred Healthcare Registry, Inc., after review and approval by County Counsel, Risk Management and the County Administrative Office; and
3. Direct the Clerk of the Board to return one (1) fully executed original copy of the attached professional services agreement with Preferred Healthcare Registry, Inc. to the Department of Health and Human Services - Contract Unit for further processing.

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

Behavioral Health Fund (1170)

**DISCUSSION:**

The Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health ("DHHS - Behavioral Health") is responsible for providing mental health services to all eligible individuals being served at the County of Humboldt's Psychiatric Health Facility, Crisis Stabilization Unit, Medication Support Clinics and other Humboldt County facilities, including, without limitation, the Humboldt County Juvenile Hall and the Humboldt County Correctional Facility. In order to meet such obligations, DHHS - Behavioral Health has contracted with qualified professional staffing firms,

including, without limitation, Preferred Healthcare Registry, Inc., who have historically provided supplemental personnel due to the difficulties associated with recruiting and retaining qualified behavioral health personnel in Humboldt County.

Despite the ongoing recruitment efforts of DHHS - Behavioral Health and the Humboldt County Human Resources Department, DHHS - Behavioral Health continues to experience significant difficulties recruiting a qualified Senior Activity Therapist, Supervising Mental Health Clinician, and Mental Health Clinicians to provide mandated rehabilitation, clinical and supervision services at the County of Humboldt's Psychiatric Health Facility.

Accordingly, DHHS - Behavioral Health recommends that the Board approve, and authorize the Chair of the Board to execute, the attached professional services agreement with Preferred Healthcare, Inc. which allows for the provision of licensed personnel to fill the Senior Activity Therapist, Supervising Mental Health Clinician and Mental Health Clinician positions at the County of Humboldt's Psychiatric Health Facility. It is also recommended that the Board authorize the DHHS - Behavioral Health Director, or a designee thereof, to execute any and all subsequent amendments to the attached professional services agreement with Preferred Healthcare Registry, Inc., 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 rehabilitation, clinical and supervision services at the County of Humboldt's Psychiatric Health Facility.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The attached professional services agreement with Preferred Healthcare Registry, Inc. has a maximum amount payable of Eight Hundred Ninety-Eight Thousand Sixteen Dollars (\$898,016.00) for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025. In no event shall the maximum amount paid under the attached professional services agreement with Preferred Healthcare Registry, Inc. exceed Four Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand Eight Dollars (\$449,008.00) per fiscal year for fiscal years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. However, if local, state or federal funding is reduced or eliminated, the County of Humboldt may reduce the above-referenced maximum amount payable or terminate the attached professional services agreement with Preferred Healthcare Registry, Inc. in its entirety.

Expenditure appropriations related to the attached professional services agreement with Preferred Healthcare Registry, Inc. will be included in the proposed fiscal year 2023-2024 budget for DHHS - Behavioral Health Administration budget unit 1170-424. Funding for the attached professional services agreement with Preferred Healthcare Registry, Inc. is available through federal financial participation and state general fund for Specialty Mental Health Medi-Cal, state realignment and Mental Health Services Act revenues received by DHHS - Behavioral Health. As a result, approval of the attached professional services agreement with Preferred Healthcare Registry, Inc. will not impact the Humboldt County General Fund.

STAFFING IMPACT:

Approval of the attached professional services agreement with Preferred Healthcare Registry, Inc. will not directly 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 services.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board may choose not to approve the attached professional services agreement with Preferred Healthcare Registry, Inc. regarding the provision of licensed personnel to fill the Senior Activity Therapist, Supervising Mental Health Clinician and Mental Health Clinician positions at the County of Humboldt's Psychiatric Health Facility. However, this alternative is not recommended since it will not allow DHHS - Behavioral Health to provide the rehabilitation, clinical and supervision services required by the California Welfare and Institutions Code.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Professional Services Agreement with Preferred Healthcare Registry, Inc. Regarding the Provision of Licensed Personnel to Fill the Senior Activity Therapist, Supervising Mental Health Clinician, and Mental Health Clinician Positions at the County of Humboldt's Psychiatric Health Facility

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.: C-31

Meeting of: June 25, 2019

File No.: 19-902