

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

<p>(1) DEPARTMENT Behavioral Health</p>	<p>(2) MEETING DATE 7/16/2013</p>	<p>(3) CONTACT/PHONE Melanie Serrou, 781-4756 Dr. Star Graber, 781-4759</p>	
<p>(4) SUBJECT Request to approve four renewal contracts and one new contract (Clerk's File) with five Sober Living Environment (SLE) providers for Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-14 in the collective amount not to exceed \$200,000 to provide sober living environment housing in collaboration with drug and alcohol treatment services.</p>			
<p>(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board approve and direct Chairperson to sign renewal contracts with Captive Hearts, Casa Solana, Coastal Recovery, Gatehelp/Gryphon and one new contract with House of Serenity for FY 2013-14 in the collective amount not to exceed \$200,000 to provide sober living environment housing in collaboration with drug and alcohol treatment services.</p>			
<p>(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Realignment, CalEMA</p>	<p>(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$200,000.00</p>	<p>(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$200,000.00</p>	<p>(9) BUDGETED? Yes</p>
<p>(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ___) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ___)</p>			
<p>(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p>			
<p>(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) 19001303</p>		<p>(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A</p>	
<p>(14) LOCATION MAP No</p>	<p>(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No</p>	<p>(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A Paid previously with Purchase Order</p>	
<p>(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Reviewed by Leslie Brown</p>			
<p>(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts -</p>			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jeff Hamm, Health Agency Director
Karen Baylor, Ph.D., MFT, Behavioral Health Administrator

DATE: July 16, 2013

SUBJECT: Request to approve four renewal contracts and one new contract (Clerk's File) with five Sober Living Environment (SLE) providers for Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-14 in the collective amount not to exceed \$200,000 to provide sober living environment housing in collaboration with drug and alcohol treatment services.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve and direct Chairperson to sign renewal contracts with Captive Hearts, Casa Solana, Coastal Recovery, Gatehelp/Gryphon and one new contract with House of Serenity for FY 2013-14 in the collective amount not to exceed \$200,000 to provide sober living environment housing in collaboration with drug and alcohol treatment services.

DISCUSSION

The Health Agency's Behavioral Health Department contracts with various Sober Living Environments (SLEs), which provide a safe and sober living environment appropriate to the level of care necessary for those with severe drug and alcohol dependence. SLEs are safe and secure environments that provide house supervision and basic care while working collaboratively with Behavioral Health staff to provide intensive substance use disorder treatment.

Clients referred to a SLE benefit from the structure and stability provided by the SLE. This helps clients stay focused on their recovery efforts, avoiding the negative aspects related to their addiction. SLE clients must follow house guidelines designed to keep them on the right path. Clients may not bring drugs or alcohol in the home and must refrain from using drugs or alcohol for the duration of their stay. Sober living housing alone is not the solution to drug addiction, however, it can play a major role in helping the addict remain clean and sober. Combined with on-going treatment, peer and family support, many recovering addicts are now living positive lifestyles free from drugs and alcohol.

The 2011 Public Safety Realignment Act (AB109) was signed into law on April 4, 2011. AB109 transfers responsibility from the State to counties for offenders convicted of certain low level felonies, defined as non-serious, non-violent, non-registered sex (N3) offenses. As part of the implementation of Public Safety Realignment, monies are set aside for supportive housing services including SLEs. AB109 clients requiring

housing will be referred to one of the five SLE contractors. Funding for SLE housing in FY 2013-14 will come from County Public Safety Realignment dollars and a grant received by the State of California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA) to provide sober living beds to AB109 clients.

Because each SLE has a limited number of beds available, the Department contracts with multiple facilities to ensure that placement options are available when needed. Of the five contracts, rates per day vary from \$25 - \$40. Contract rates for FY 2013-14 did not change from the previous fiscal year. SLE provider costs vary depending on the level of care and program needs of the client. Additional services like client transportation and vocational rehabilitation services are considered added services resulting in a higher daily bed rate charge. The table below shows the contracted rate and capacity of each contractor.

Provider Rate, Location(s) and Beds

Provider	Gatehelp / Gryphon	Coastal Recovery	Casa Solana	Captive Hearts	House of Serenity
Daily Bed Rate	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$30.00	\$40.00	\$28.00
Houses	1 - Grover Beach 3 - SLO 1 - Atascadero 1 - Paso Robles 6 - TOTAL	1 - Grover Beach 1 - SLO 2 - TOTAL	2 - Grover Beach 2 - TOTAL	1 - Grover Beach 1 - Oceano 2 - TOTAL	1 - SLO (TBD) 1 - TOTAL
Beds Available	58 client beds / 64 including managers	18 client beds	20 client beds	12 client beds	6 client beds

The five SLE contractors are Qualified Service Organizations (QSOs) who work directly with County Behavioral Health for the treatment needs of the clients. The significance of the QSO Agreement is that it allows the SLE and Behavioral Health Department to share necessary client information without having a separate signed confidentiality agreement. This can greatly expedite the process for getting clients into a SLE and allow the collaborative flow of information about clients to be shared. The confidential information cannot be shared with outside parties who are not actively working in the services associated with this contract.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the contracts as to form and legal effect.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The FY 2013-14 Behavioral Health Adopted Budgeted includes \$351,369 in SLE housing. Of this amount, \$106,328 is designated for the AB109 population and \$245,041 for residential services to pregnant and parenting women and their children. The five aforementioned contractors provide SLE services to the AB109 population and are not equipped to provide housing specific to pregnant and parenting women and their children.

The collective amount of the contracts is not to exceed \$200,000 and is based on \$106,328 (AB109 funding) included in the FY 2013-14 Adopted Budget and an additional \$93,672 (CalEMA grant) in anticipated carry-over funds. On October 16th, 2012, your Board approved the CalEMA grant to provide seven concurrent sober living beds. Due to the slow start up of this grant, SLE savings will be carried over into the 2013-14 fiscal year and spent appropriately.

The table below displays two years of SLE spending and associated bed days.

Provider	Bed Day Rate	2012-13 Estimate		2013-14 Budget	
		Paid Bed Days	Cost	Paid Bed Days	Cost
Gatehelp/Gryphon	\$25.00	3817	\$95,425	3148	\$78,700
Coastal Recovery	\$25.00	1038	\$25,940	1100	\$27,500
Casa Solana	\$30.00	1457	\$43,710	1100	\$33,000
Captive Hearts	\$40.00	1310	\$52,400	1100	\$44,000
House of Serenity	\$28.00	NA	NA	600	\$16,800
Total	NA	7622	\$217,475	7048	\$200,000

The Department will only pay for actual bed days used. By setting the contract value for each provider at the maximum dollar amount, the Department gains the flexibility to utilize a pool of providers during the year based on the needs and requirements of each client. Each contract provides a maximum amount of \$200,000, but it is clear in the contracts that the County only pays for actual bed days used and that this amount is inclusive of all the other SLE contracts.

Behavioral Health clinicians complete an initial referral of each client for SLE housing and then subsequent referrals monthly to the SLE manager. Behavioral Health monitors all SLE placements to ensure they are appropriate and necessary for the client. As mentioned, ongoing treatment, case management and individual therapy is provided by Behavioral Health staff while the clients are housed at the SLE facility. As the client's progress in their treatment and their financial circumstances improve, the clients are transitioned to self-pay in order to provide more opportunity to new clients in need of assistance.

To encourage new SLE facilities and increase the availability of beds when they are needed, each of the five contracts includes a \$5,000 start-up option to encourage expanded services by adding additional facilities. The intent is to have more beds available to both our clientele as well as community individuals who would benefit from a sober living environment.

RESULTS

The Behavioral Health Department pays for the initial few months of the clients stay in a SLE. Behavioral Health paid for 56 percent of the actual SLE bed days for clients in FY 2012-13. Overall the actual SLE bed days is estimated to be at 18,171 for all the contracted facilities as well as the other SLE facilities that are not a part of this request. On average, clients stayed 92 days or about three (3) months at the SLE. Longer stays in treatment are associated with higher levels of overall success in maintaining sobriety.

Provider	2012-13 Estimate		
	Clients Served	Actual Bed Days	Avg. Stay (days)
Gatehelp/Gryphon	88	8130	127
Coastal Recovery	23	1406	66
Casa Solana	20	1655	86
Captive Hearts	15	1338	89
House of Serenity	NA	NA	NA
Other SLEs (no contract)	63	5642	90
Total	209	18171	92

The Behavioral Health Department accepts responsibility for managing SLE placements in the most cost effective manner, while providing the most appropriate and comprehensive treatment option for the individual client. The contract with Captive Hearts, Casa Solana, Coastal Recovery, Gatehelp/Gryphon and House of Serenity to provide sober living environment housing will continue to help clients become stable in their sobriety and thus not return to a cycle of illegal and negative behavior. Providing the most appropriate services to the clients increases the probability of positive treatment outcomes. Furthermore, positive treatment outcomes contribute to the wider County vision of a healthy and safe community.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Clerk’s Filed Cover Sheet for Sober Living Environment (SLE) Contracts FY 2013-14