

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

(1) DEPARTMENT Behavioral Health	(2) MEETING DATE 8/12/2014	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Cindy Collins, ASM, 788-2932; Amy Olson, ASO II, 781-4729	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve a FY 2014-15 renewal contract with Edgewood Center for Children and Families, Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$548,877 to provide day treatment, including mental health and social services, within a residential board and care setting for youth and adolescents with severe emotional and mental health issues. All Districts.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board approve and direct Chairperson to sign a renewal FY 2014-15 contract with Edgewood Center for Children and Families, Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$548,877 to provide day treatment, including mental health and social services, within a residential board and care setting for children with severe emotional and mental health issues.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Medi-Cal, EPSDT, Realignment	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$548,877.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$548,877.00	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(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. ___)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) 19001425		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Date: <u>July 9, 2014</u>	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Reviewed by Leslie Brown			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Jeff Hamm, Health Agency Director
Anne Robin, LMFT, Behavioral Health Administrator

DATE: 8/12/2014

SUBJECT: Request to approve a renewal FY 2014-15 contract with Edgewood Center for Children and Families, Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$548,877 to provide day treatment services, including mental health and social services, within a residential board and care setting for youth and adolescents with severe emotional and mental health issues. All Districts.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve and direct Chairperson to sign a renewal FY 2014-15 contract with Edgewood Center for Children and Families, Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$548,877 to provide day treatment services, including mental health and social services, within a residential board and care setting for children with severe emotional and mental health issues.

DISCUSSION

The Health Agency's Behavioral Health Department is responsible for providing mental health services to youth who have been placed in a sub-acute, or intensive therapeutic care, residential treatment facility and group homes by the following agencies.

- 1) Department of Social Services;
- 2) Probation Department;
- 3) School Districts, as part of an Individual Education Plan (IEP).

These youth typically have severe emotional problems that can result in behavioral disorders that compromise their ability to function successfully in the community and hinder educational progress. In some cases, these behaviors lead to involvement with the criminal justice system. Many of these youth have been unsuccessful in an outpatient treatment setting and have failed in multiple foster home placements before being placed in a group home or residential treatment facility.

All group homes and residential treatment facilities are licensed and monitored by the State. The group home and residential treatment facility included in this Board item is classified as a Level 14 facility, the most intense level of care classified by the State. Level 14 facilities offer a safe, secure setting for youth, while providing specialized services to enhance life skills, promote behavioral management skills, and address negative impacts regarding educational progress. Group homes and residential treatment facilities generally serve youth who need longer-term care than is available in an acute care hospital setting and less care than a more intensive and more expensive placement in a state hospital.

The Behavioral Health Department is responsible for the cost of providing day treatment services to youth residing in group home facilities. Day treatment services provide the mental health and social services treatment component of the residential program. Day treatments programs provide a minimum of three continuous treatment hours, five days per week. Typical mental health services provided as part of a day treatment include:

- Group interactions providing support, feedback and guidance to help youth build skills in problem solving and problem identification that will lead to integration back into their community.

- Complimentary and enhancing therapies in which clients utilize other forms of self-expression, such as art therapy to enhance self-esteem and increase ability to express emotions in a safe manner.
- A behavioral management system that utilizes points and levels to evaluate progress and provides immediate feedback in the way of incentives or disincentives to the youth in order to meet treatment goals.
- Psychotherapy, as indicated, in intensive programming.

In addition to day treatment services, group homes and residential treatment facilities provide other mental health services that are prescribed as part of the youth's treatment plan. These services may include case management, medication support, crisis intervention or therapeutic behavioral services. These services provide behavior modeling, structure and support, and immediate, one-to-one interventions that assist the youth in engaging in appropriate activities, minimizing impulsivity and increasing social competencies.

The Behavioral Health Department strives to serve clients in the least restrictive settings as possible and supports a continuum of care appropriate for clients at all treatment levels. Organizations that are partnered to continue this strategy in FY 2014-15 include: Family Care Network, and Kinship Center, which provide specialty services for youth and their relative caregivers/foster parents; Martha's Place, the Children's Assessment Center, which offers early assessments and treatment for children with prenatal drug exposure; the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) programs for Youth and Transitional age Youth, which provide intensive wraparound services to high-risk youth in the community; Child Development Center, to provide behavior modeling, structure and support services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries of low income families; and continued collaboration with the County Office of Education to offer enhanced services to students in special education classes.

These various programs are designed to increase support for youth and families and provide a network of care to allow more youth to remain in the community. It is desired that the availability of this expanded network of care will reduce the number of group home and residential treatment facility placements. A number of more severely disturbed youth will continue to need the highly structured environment that is offered by a group home or residential treatment facility to assure their safety and well-being. Outpatient services will remain available to youth when they graduate from the residential program and return home.

Since there are no Level 14 group homes in this county, the Behavioral Health Services staff, in collaboration with the Probation Department, Department of Social Services and local school districts, make every attempt to place youth in facilities as close to San Luis Obispo County as possible. Each group home has a limited number of openings, so the County contracts with multiple facilities to ensure that placement options are available when needed. In addition to bed availability, staff considers a number of important factors when deciding on the most appropriate placement for each youth. Specialty programs range from services geared to young children to services targeting teens needing vocational skill building. Each facility must also meet credentialing requirements for each type of service provided and are continuously re-evaluated on their performance.

On July 22, your Board renewed contracts with five group homes: Bayfront Youth & Family Services, Casa Pacific Centers for Children and Families, Milhous Children's Services, Inc., Odd Fellow Rebekah Children's Home of California, and Victor Treatment Centers, Inc. The addition of Edgewood Center for Children and Families, Inc. will assist Behavioral Health in expanding options for appropriate and timely placement for children. The tardiness of the Edgewood contract renewal is due to a lengthy negotiation process including contractor program changes for FY 2014-15.

This contract includes a provision to renew the contract for one year utilizing delegation of authority of the Health Agency Director to determine whether to renew the contract without additional approval by the Board of Supervisors. As per Exhibit C.4 and D.30 of the contract, the renewal would be in writing, approved by County Counsel, be within change order limits and current year contract maximum, and begin immediately upon expiration of the contract's initial one-year term.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

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

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The FY 2014-15 Behavioral Health Proposed Budget includes \$548,877 for day treatment services, including mental health services, to youth placed in group homes and residential treatment facilities, a decrease of \$64,296 from the FY 2013-14 budget of \$613,173. During FY 2013-14, fewer client days have been utilized than budgeted due to moving three

clients to lower levels of care during the year and fewer new clients moving to higher levels of care. The budget estimate for FY 2014-15 was based on a reduction in the cost of providing additional mental health services and fewer clients in need of Level 14 residential care.

The table below displays actual expenditures for all group homes utilized during the past three fiscal years and the estimated distribution and amounts for FY 2014-15 Budget.

Client Days and Costs (Day Treatment and Mental Health Services)

Group Home	2011-12 Actual		2012-13 Actual		2013-14 Estimate		2014-15 Budget	
	Clients	Cost	Clients	Cost	Clients	Cost	Clients	Cost
Bay front	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$26,576	1	\$50,000
Casa Pacifica	1	\$38,819	1	\$9,837	0	\$0	0	\$10,000
Edgewood	1	\$30,858	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$10,000
Families First, Inc.	1	\$63,815	1	\$14,623	0	\$0	0	\$0
Millhous	4	\$207,551	5	\$210,661	8	\$285,169	6	\$427,877
Rebekah	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$10,000
Seneca	3	\$110,087	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Summitview	0	\$0	1	\$2,757	0	\$0	0	\$0
Sunny Hills	1	\$12,888	1	\$7,848	0	\$0	1	\$0
TLC	0	\$0	1	\$2,487	1	\$10,093	0	\$0
Victor	3	\$39,774	3	\$52,671	0	\$0	1	\$41,000
TOTAL BUDGET	13	\$503,792	10	\$300,884	10	\$321,838	9	\$548,877

The contract amount for each provider is set at a maximum of \$548,877 which is the entire budget for all Behavioral Health group homes and residential treatment facilities serving youth and adolescents. However, the County will only compensate each provider for the actual services provided. 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.

RESULTS

Although the County has not placed a client at Edgewood since FY 2011-12, this group home provides intensive services to children who exhibit severe symptoms and behaviors related to their mental illness. The Contractor will monitor, track, and report to the County on the following performance indicators:

- at least 80% of County’s client residents will avoid acute hospitalization during the contract year;
- at least 85% of County’s client residents will attend and participate in school activities on at least 95% of the established school days.

During the time the last client was placed at Edgewood, the Contractor was successful in achieving the outcomes of the child avoiding acute hospitalization altogether while participating in school activities on 97% of established school days.

The Behavioral Health Department seeks to provide clients the appropriate level of care by matching treatment services, including residential placements, to clients’ individual needs. The above mentioned contract provides the necessary resources to assure that the appropriate level of care is available for the youth in need of residential treatment services. Providing the most appropriate services to these clients increases their probability of positive treatment outcomes. Furthermore, positive treatment outcomes contribute to the wider County vision of a healthy and safe community.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Edgewood Contract Renewal FY 2014-15