



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence

Health Department

DATE: September 19, 2005
BOARD MEETING DATE: September 27, 2005
SPECIAL NOTICE/HEARING: None
VOTE REQUIRED: Majority

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Charlene A. Silva, Director, Health Department

Gale Bataille, Director of Mental Health Services

SUBJECT: Mental Health Association of Alameda County

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution:

- A) Authorizing the President of the Board to execute an agreement with Mental Health Association of Alameda County for the provision of patient's rights services for the term July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006, for a maximum amount of \$174,248; and
- B) Authorizing the Director of the Health Department to execute subsequent amendments and minor modifications not to exceed an aggregate of \$25,000 and to make minor changes in the type of services and activities provided under the Agreement.

VISION ALIGNMENT:

Commitment: To ensure basic health and safety for all.

Goal 8: Help vulnerable people – the aged, disabled, mentally ill, at risk youth, and others – achieve a better quality of life.

This Agreement contributes to this commitment and goal by providing patient's rights advocacy services for recipients of mental health services in San Mateo County.

Performance Measure:

Measure	FY 2004-05 Actual	FY 2005-06 Projected
Contractor shall provide representation for 100% of patients scheduled for Certifications and Capacity Hearings at Sequoia Hospital, VA Menlo Park, Mills-Peninsula Hospital, and SMMC, and who elect to have representation by Contractor.	100%	100%

BACKGROUND:

By statute the County is obligated to provide patient's rights advocacy services for all recipients of mental health services in San Mateo County. These services include patient hearing representation at Certification and Capacity hearings in psychiatric inpatient facilities, as well as complaint investigation and resolution, monitoring of mental health facilities, outreach and training on advocacy topics for clients and providers. There are four inpatient facilities in our county where capacity and certification hearings take place: Mills-Peninsula Hospital, San Mateo Medical Center (SMMC), Sequoia Hospital, and the Veteran's Administration in Menlo Park.

In FY 2003-04 Mental Health Services staff provided advocacy services, including hearing representation services at the Veteran's Administration and Sequoia Hospital. Hearing representation services at Mills-Peninsula and SMMC were provided through the County's agreement with the San Mateo County Bar Association for the Private Defender Program through FY 2003-04. In May of 2003 Mental Health conducted a Request for Proposals process to select a provider of patient's rights advocacy services. There were two respondents to the RFP and the Mental Health Association of Alameda County was awarded the contract to provide those services.

DISCUSSION:

The agreement with this Contractor is being renewed for FY 2005-06. Contractor will provide patient's rights advocacy services for all recipients of mental health services in San Mateo County. As required by statute, services will be provided to clients whether or not they are receiving services from County Mental Health Services. Patient's rights advocacy services include: complaint investigation and resolution; compliance monitoring of facilities providing mental health services; training of staff in mental health facilities regarding patient's rights, laws, regulations and policies; and, patient representation at Certification Hearings and Capacity Hearings at Sequoia Hospital, the VA in Menlo Park, Mills-Peninsula Hospital and SMMC. For this agreement Contractor will also provide patient education services to comply with new State requirements for advance directives. The contractor will provide services through an office in San Mateo County.

The Agreement has been reviewed by Risk Management and County Counsel.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of this agreement is July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006. The agreement maximum is \$174,248, which is an increase of \$25,000 over FY 2004-05 due to the new requirements for advance directives. Funding for these services is included in the proposed Mental Health Services budget for FY 2005-06. Services will be funded 100% by realignment funds. There is no net county cost.

RECOMMENDED
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COUNTY MANAGER