



# COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 12/6/2022

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File #: 22-1526

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**To:** Board of Supervisors

**From:** DHHS: Behavioral Health

**Agenda Section:** Consent

**SUBJECT:**

Mental Health Plan Agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services Regarding the Provision of Specialty Mental Health Services to Eligible Medi-Cal Beneficiaries of Humboldt County

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Waive the requirements of the Humboldt County Nuclear Free Ordinance with regard to the attached mental health plan agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services;
2. Approve, and authorize the Department of Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Director, or designee thereof, to execute, the attached mental health plan agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services regarding the provision of specialty mental health services to eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries in Humboldt County for the period of July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2027;
3. Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Director, or a designee thereof, to execute all subsequent amendments to, and any other certifications, attestations, agreements and documents directly associated with, the attached mental health plan agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services, after review and approval by County Counsel, Risk Management, and the County Administrative Office; and
4. Direct the Clerk of the Board to provide the Department of Health and Human Services - Contract Unit with one (1) certified copy of the Board Order pertaining to this item for submission to the California Department of Health Care Services.

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

Behavioral Health Fund (1170)

**DISCUSSION:**

In 1995, the State of California transferred responsibility for the provision of Medi-Cal funded acute inpatient specialty mental health services rendered to Medi-Cal beneficiaries to the Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health (“DHHS - Behavioral Health”). In 1997, the State of California transferred responsibility for the provision of all Medi-Cal funded outpatient services to DHHS - Behavioral Health. As part of the transfer of responsibility, DHHS - Behavioral Health is responsible for providing, or arranging for the provision, of all medically

necessary specialty mental health services for the Humboldt County Medi-Cal population. DHHS - Behavioral Health continues to operate as the local Mental Health Plan.

The attached mental health plan agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services sets forth the terms, conditions, principles and general requirements that the County of Humboldt must meet in order to receive critical state and federal funding for the provision of specialty mental health services. The attached mental health plan agreement comes to the Board after the start date thereof due to inadvertent delays that occurred during the contract development process.

Accordingly, DHHS - Behavioral Health recommends that the Board approve, and authorize the DHHS - Behavioral Health Director, or a designee thereof, to execute the attached mental health plan agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services, regarding the provision of specialty mental health services to eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries in Humboldt County for the period of July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2027. 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, and any other certifications, attestations, agreements and documents directly associated with, the attached mental health plan agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services, 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 specialty mental health services to eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries in Humboldt County.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Although the attached mental health plan Agreement with California Department of Health Care Services indicates a zero maximum dollar value, funding for the County of Humboldt's mental health programs is dependent on the execution thereof. The County of Humboldt will be reimbursed for the provision of specialty mental health services to eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries in accordance with California Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 5600, *et seq.* and California Government Code Sections 11138, 14705 and 14718. DHHS - Behavioral Health will submit certified public expenditure claims through the California Department of Health Care Services for federal reimbursement of costs associated with the provision of specialty mental health services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

Revenue and expenditure appropriations associated with the attached mental health plan agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services have been included in the approved fiscal year 2022-2023 budget for DHHS - Behavioral Health Administration budget unit 1170-424. As a result, approval of the attached mental health plan agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services will not impact the Humboldt County General Fund.

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 service.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

**ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Board may choose not to approve the attached mental health plan agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services regarding the provision of specialty mental health services to eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries in Humboldt County. However, this alternative is not recommended it would cause DHHS - Behavioral Health to lose critical funding for the provision of medically necessary specialty mental health services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries in Humboldt County.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Mental Health Plan Agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services Regarding the Provision of Specialty Mental Health Services to Eligible Medi-Cal Beneficiaries in Humboldt County

**PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:**

Board Order No.: C-16; C-9; C-19

Meeting of: 8/14/12; 5/14/13; 6/26/18

File No.: