

I'm Lasara Firefox Allen, the Executive Director of Manzanita Services, and I respectfully urge you to approve the Agreement with Redwood Quality Management Company in the amount listed above. Manzanita is the largest adult case management agency in Mendocino County serving hundreds of individuals with mental health challenges.

Since I have been working in this position my experience has been that RQMC has been an amazing foundation to work from. They reliably demonstrate excellent management of service contracts, strive for collaboration between agencies, and are equitable in their approach to management.

This is not a time to change the administration and management of the system of care contracts in the county; agencies are struggling in providing services to clients with the COVID-19 challenges still very present in the county. RQMC is an effective ASO and has consistently provided technical assistance, guidance and has been instrumental in keeping our agencies in business. In addition, RQMC cares about our agencies and the individuals and families that we serve in both the Adult and Children's System of Care.

As Executive Director of Manzanita Services, and as a concerned community member and a mental health peer, I urge you to approve this agreement today!

Thank you!

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Lasara Firefox Allen, MSW

(they/them/theirs - <https://www.mypronouns.org/>)

Executive Director

Manzanita Services, Inc.