



Mendocino County

Legislation Text

File #: 24-0715, Version: 1

To: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

From: Behavioral Health and Recovery Services

Meeting Date: July 9, 2024

Department Contact: Jenine Miller, Psy. D.

Phone: 707-472-2341

Item Type: Consent Agenda

Time Allocated for Item: N/A

Agenda Title:

Ratification of Submission of Grant Application to The Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) for Mental Health Student Services Act (MHSSA) 004 Funding; Authorization for the Health Services Director to Execute the Resulting Grant Agreement if Awarded, up to \$450,000, for the Anticipated Project Period of Upon Signing for a Three-Year Period; and Authorization for the Health Services Director or Designee to Sign Any Amendments that do not Increase the Maximum Amount

Recommended Action/Motion:

Ratify submission of grant application to Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) for Mental Health Student Services Act (MHSSA) 004 funding; authorize the Health Services Director to execute the resulting grant Agreement if awarded, up to \$450,000, for the anticipated project period of upon signing for a three-year period; and authorize the Health Services Director or designee to sign any amendments that do not increase the maximum amount.

Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:

None.

Summary of Request:

Senate Bill 75, as Chaptered in the 2019 Budget Act, included the Mental Health Student Services Act (MHSSA) to establish and strengthen school-based mental health partnerships between county/city behavioral health departments, school districts, county office of education, and charter schools. The grants incentivize partnerships who deliver school-based mental health services to students and their families, conduct outreach to identify early signs of unmet mental health needs, reduce stigma and discrimination and prevent unmet mental health needs from becoming severe and disabling.

Improved access to mental health services is foundational to supporting children and youth to develop into healthy, resilient adults. Comprehensive models and integrated services that are tailored to individual and family needs have the best chance of improving health and academic outcomes. The MHSSA is intended to foster stronger school-community mental health partnerships that can leverage resources to help students succeed by authorizing counties and local educational agencies to enter into partnerships to create programs that include targeted interventions for students with identified social-emotional, behavioral, and academic needs.

In 2020, BHRS applied for MHSSA Round 1 and received \$2.5 in funding to provide mental health services

directly to students in school settings to prevent and reduce the impact of multigenerational mental health challenges as well as to provide families with support and connections to services. In 2022, BHRS received an additional \$674,751 in funding to expand and continue the program for an extended grant term of September 1, 2020, to December 31, 2026. The grant funds cover personnel and contractor expenses related to providing therapists, therapist interns, rehabilitation specialists, care managers, and counselors to respond to school districts to address concerns related to suicide risk, bullying, dropout risk, and other school-based prevention and early intervention activities. Funds also cover training and education expenses generated by the Office of Education and AmeriCorps staff expenses.

At the February 22, 2024, MHSOAC Commission meeting, the Commission approved a plan to provide a total of \$25 million over three years for services within four identified categories: (1) Marginalized and Vulnerable Youth, (2) Universal Screening, (3) Sustainability, and (4) "Other Priorities" to allow applicants to identify and address their unique needs.

Mendocino County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) created the proposed grant application for MHSSA funds, submitted it to The MHSOAC on June 28, 2024, and is now seeking Board of Supervisors ratification of application submission, and approval for the Health Services Director to execute the grant Agreement, if awarded. Through the grant application, BHRS proposed category (3) Sustainability for MHSSA funding to support continuous quality improvement and long-term sustainability of school-county partnerships funded by the MHSSA grant.

Alternative Action/Motion:

Return to staff for alternative handling.

Strategic Plan Priority Designation: A Safe and Healthy County

Supervisory District: All

vote requirement: Majority

Supplemental Information Available Online At: www.mhsoac.ca.gov

Fiscal Details:

source of funding: Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission

current f/y cost: Up to \$450,000 for the term of the grant.

annual recurring cost: N/A

budgeted in current f/y: No

if no, please describe: This item authorizes the Health Services Director to execute the Grant Agreement, if a

revenue agreement: Yes

AGREEMENT/RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE APPROVED BY COUNTY COUNSEL: N/A

CEO Liaison : Tony Rakes, Acting Deputy CEO

CEO Review: Yes

CEO Comments:

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Executed By: Atlas Pearson, Senior Deputy Clerk

Final Status: **Withdrawn**

Date: July 9, 2024

