



Office of the City Manager

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CONSENT CALENDAR
February 26, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
Submitted by: Kelly Wallace, Interim Director, HHCS
Subject: Contract: Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency for Representative Payee Services

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or her designee to enter into a contract and any amendments up to not to exceed (NTE) \$75,000 through March 31, 2020 with vendor Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency for representative payee services.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Total cost of the proposed contract (CMS #TZDLP) is \$75,000 per contract year and expenses will be recorded in budget code 315-51-503-526-2017-000-451-636110.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley's Mental Health Division (BMH) currently provides representative payee services to approximately 90 clients through the Alameda County Substitute Payee Program (ACSP). Although ACSP acts as payee, they do not have direct contact with clients, and BMH staff act as intermediaries. Providing these services detracts from BMH's core mission of providing outpatient mental health services which emphasize client needs, strengths, choices and empowerment. Moreover, providing these services alters the relationship between clients and clinicians, introducing angst and potentially damaging the rapport and trust necessary to produce healthy outcomes.

BACKGROUND

On May 26, 2015, City Council approved the MHSA FY14/15-16/17 Three Year Program and Expenditure Plan. In this Plan, the Division proposed to use a portion of CSS System Development Funds to outsource Sub-Representative Payee Services, and explained that the services would be acquired through a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process.

A representative payee is a person or organization appointed by the Social Security Administration to receive the Social Security or Supplemental Security Income benefits for anyone who is unable to manage or direct the management of his or her benefits. A payee's main duties are to use the benefits to pay for the current and future needs of the beneficiary, and properly save any benefits not needed to meet current needs. A

payee must also keep records of expenses. When a regulatory agency requests a report, a payee must provide an accounting of how he or she used or saved the benefits.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no identifiable environmental effects or opportunities associated with the subject of this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

An organization or organizations with additional capacity and specialized practices in administering a representative payee program could not only provide an enhanced level of service to consumers, but would also permit BMH clinicians to focus exclusively on their clients' other mental health needs.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Continue providing Sub-representative payee services through BMH, with clinicians acting as intermediaries for the ACSPP, while potentially continuing to damage the rapport and trust necessary to produce healthy outcomes.

CONTACT PERSON

Steven Grolnic-McClurg, Division Manager, Mental Health, 510-981-5249

Attachments:

1: Resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SELF-SUFFICIENCY FOR
REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE SERVICES

WHEREAS, Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funds are allocated to mental health jurisdictions across the state for the purposes of transforming the mental health system into one that is consumer and family driven, culturally competent, wellness and recovery oriented, includes community collaboration, and implements integrated services; and

WHEREAS, on May 26, 2015 by Resolution No. 67,026-N.S., the City Council authorized the City Manager to approve the MHSA Fiscal Years 2015 through 2017 Three Year Program and Expenditure Plan; and

WHEREAS, within the City Council approved MHSA Fiscal Years 2015 through 2017 Three Year Program and Expenditure Plan was the goal of contracting with a community based organization to provide Representative Payee Services; and

WHEREAS, on May 29, 2018 City Council approved the Finance Department's request to issue a Request for Proposals for Representative Payee Services; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley's Mental Health Division issued a Request for Proposals for Representative Payee Services, and selected Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency as the vendor, and

WHEREAS, the total cost of the proposed contract (CMS #TZDLP) is \$75,000 per contract year and expenses will be recorded in budget code 315-51-503-526-2017-000-451-636110.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or her designee is authorized to execute a contract and any amendments with Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency up to not to exceed (NTE) \$75,000 through March 31, 2020 for Representative Payee Services.

