

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2022**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 7

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONTINUUM INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM LAUNCH READY GRANT FUNDS AND MENTAL HEALTH STUDENT SERVICES ACT GRANT FUNDS, AND WAIVE BOARD POLICY B-29 (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

In an effort to support the well-being of those with behavioral health conditions, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) and the County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) remain committed to investing in services to meet the needs of this vulnerable population. In alignment with this commitment, County HHSA, Behavioral Health Services (BHS) continues to pursue new funding opportunities to enhance and expand access to critical mental health and substance use disorder prevention, engagement, and treatment services.

BHS has pursued the following grant opportunities for the projects noted below:

- Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP): Round 3 Launch Ready Grant for a new 12-bed acute psychiatric unit; and
- The Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission: Mental Health Student Services Act (MHSSA) grant to enhance the Creating Opportunities in Preventing and Eliminating Suicide program, which provides suicide prevention and mental health wellness education and information to school staff, students, and families.

In 2022, BHS was notified it was awarded approximately \$12.4 million of one-time BHCIP funding and approximately \$1.1 million in additional MHSSA grant funding. Today's actions seek approval to authorize acceptance of BHCIP Launch Ready Grant and MHSSA grant funds and to waive Board Policy B-29, Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery, which requires full-cost recovery for both grants.

Today's actions support the County's vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by providing inclusive services that yield better outcomes and opportunities for underrepresented communities.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Authorize the acceptance of approximately \$12.4 million of one-time Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program Launch Ready Grant funding from the California Department of Health Care Services for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23 through FY 2026-27 for the construction of a new 12-bed Acute Psychiatric Unit within the existing Edgemoor Distinct Part Skilled Nursing Facility campus and authorize the Agency Director, Health and Human Services Agency, or designee to execute all required documents, upon receipt, including any annual extensions, amendments, or revisions that do not materially impact or alter the services or funding level.

2. Authorize the acceptance of approximately \$1.1 million in additional Mental Health Student Services Act grant funding from the Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission for FY 2022-23 through FY 2025-26 to enhance the current Creating Opportunities in Preventing and Eliminating Suicide program, and authorize the Agency Director, Health and Human Services Agency, or designee to execute all required documents, upon receipt, including any annual extensions, amendments, or revisions that do not materially impact or alter the services or funding level.
3. Waive Board Policy B-29, Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery, which requires full cost recovery for grants.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The vision of the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Services (BHS), is to build a system in which mental health and substance use services are equitably and regionally distributed and accessible to all individuals and families within the region who are in need. In pursuit of this goal, BHS is committed to pursuing funding sources that will support the provision of services to vulnerable and underserved populations.

The East Region, an area with high Medi-Cal client density and a large portion of the community falling within the lowest quartile of the Healthy Places Index, has limited behavioral health infrastructure which requires residents to travel to receive behavioral health services. Today's actions will improve regional access for seniors and medically frail adults residing within the Edgemoor facility, along with residents of the East Region who are in need of acute care by establishing new infrastructure and services within their community, though the new facility will serve residents countywide as needed. Establishing acute psychiatric services within the East Region supports regionally distributed access to specialty psychiatric care.

In the ten years preceding the pandemic, the rate of high school students who reported persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness increased by 40%. The negative effects of the pandemic have exacerbated the deteriorating mental health of marginalized populations, furthering the health disparities that exist among underserved/underrepresented communities, and disproportionately impacting children and youth. To address the social, economic, cultural, geographic, and other barriers that often hinder the accessibility of behavioral health care, BHS has taken strides to address the gap by bringing services directly to communities of need.

Today's action will enhance on-campus suicide prevention, mental health, and outreach to high-risk youth, including foster youth, youth who identify as LGBTQ+, and youth who have been expelled or suspended from school.

FISCAL IMPACT

Recommendation #1: Authorize the Acceptance of the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program Launch Ready Grant

Funds tied to this request are not included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-24 Operational Plan in the Health and Human Services Agency (HHS). If approved, this request will result in estimated costs and revenue of approximately \$13.4 million in FY 2022-23 through FY 2026-27 and will be used to support the Edgemoor Psychiatric Unit capital project appropriated in the County Health Complex Fund. The

estimated revenue of \$13.4 million is inclusive of \$12.4 million associated with the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program Launch Ready Grant allocation funded by State Fiscal Recovery Funds established by the American Rescue Plan Act, and a \$1.0 million County match requirement funded by Realignment. Funds for this program will use existing appropriations and will be included in future Operational Plans, as needed. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

Recommendation #2: Authorize the Acceptance of the Mental Health Student Services Act (MHSSA) Grant

Funds for this request are not included in the Fiscal Year 2022-24 Operational Plan in the HHSA. If approved, this request will result in an estimated total cost and revenue of \$1.1 million in FY 2022-23 through FY 2025-26. The funding source is the Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission. Funding for this program will use existing appropriations and be included in future Operational Plans. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

Recommendation #3: Waive Board Policy B-29, Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts

For the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program Launch Ready Grant a waiver of Board Policy B-29 is requested because the funding does not offset costs associated with the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program Launch Ready Grant local match requirement of approximately \$1.0 million in FY 2022-23 through FY 2026-27. The public benefit of this project far outweighs the B-29 unrecoverable costs.

For the Mental Health Student Services Act Grant a waiver of Board Policy B-29 is requested because the funding does not offset all costs associated with the implementation of the Mental Health Student Services Act grant of approximately \$15,000 annually. The public benefit of providing these services far outweighs the unrecoverable costs and maximizes grant funds used to implement the project.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Vargas, seconded by Supervisor Fletcher, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Fletcher, Desmond

State of California)
County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



Signed
by Andrew Potter