TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Shelli Brobst for Randolph F. Snowden - Director Health & Human Services
REPORT BY: Shelli Brobst, Contracts Analyst - 253-4720
SUBJECT: Actions regarding Children's Behavioral Health/Child Welfare Services agreements

RECOMMENDATION
Director of Health and Human Services requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign the following amendments for the contractors to provide additional mandated counseling services to clients referred by the County's Children's Behavioral Health, Child Welfare Services, and/or SB 163 programs:

1. Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. 6867 with Rocio Cuddy, LCSW, increasing the amount by $4,800 for a new annual maximum of $10,000; and
2. Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. 7209 with Family Service of the North Bay, Inc., increasing the amount by $10,000 for a new annual maximum of $25,000.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
The contractors provide mandated psychotherapy and psychological services to children and families who are clients of the County's Children's Behavioral Health, Child Welfare Services and/or SB 163 programs. Approval of the recommended amendments will increase the contractual maximum in each of the agreements to allow the contractors to provide more units of service this fiscal year.

FISCAL IMPACT
Is there a Fiscal Impact? Yes
Is it currently budgeted? Yes
Where is it budgeted? Mental Health
Social Services

Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?  Mandatory
Is the general fund affected?  Yes
Future fiscal impact:  Although each of the agreements will terminate June 30, 2010, each agreement contains a provision for automatic annual renewal at the County's option. Appropriations have been included in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 requested budget.
Consequences if not approved:  If the requested action is not approved, the providers will not be compensated for the additional mandatory counseling services.
Additional Information:  The impact of the agreements on the General Fund depends on whether children and families who will be receiving the services come to the County's Health and Human Services Agency's (HHSA) Child Welfare Services (CWS) through a court order, Children's Behavioral Health (CBH) through an Individualized Education Plan from the local school system, or SB 163 program (supportive wraparound services, provided by HHSA and Probation staff; designed to maintain children in the community). The General Fund portion of the contract can range from 0% for SB 163 clients and CBH clients, to approximately 15% for CWS clients.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:  The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Approval of the recommended amendment will enable the contractors to continue providing mandated counseling services for children and families who are not in the County’s Medi-Cal managed care program, either because they are not Medi-Cal eligible, or because it is not practical for them to go through the managed care system (e.g., there is a pre-existing relationship with a non-managed care therapist). These children and families come to the County through one of three “doors” — the Children’s Behavioral Health (CBH) “door” (through an Individualized Education Plan [IEP] from the local school system), the Child Welfare Services (CWS) “door” (through a court order), or the SB 163 “door” (supportive wraparound services, funded by the County and provided by Health and Human Services Agency and Probation Department staff, designed to maintain children in the community).

The amendments are being requested to increase the maximum amount of each agreement to enable payment to the contractors for the provision of additional mandated counseling services in Fiscal Year 2009-2010. The maximum amount payable for this service will remain within the total authorized budgeted amount for Fiscal Year 2009-2010. Under the County’s current protocols for contract management, HHSA is only able to pay a contractor up to the amount of the spending authority specified in an approved contract. Thus, to avoid having expenditure authority “stranded” in contracts, which may not be fully utilized during the year, HHSA’s practice is to amend contracts during the course of the year, as they are utilized. The recommended amendment is thus in line with HHSA's practice of monitoring utilization of specialty services through the year and applying funding by means of periodic contract amendments. The County will only reimburse the contractors for services that have been authorized by the program manager, and only up to the Board-authorized maximum.
Roico Cuddy and Family Service of the North Bay are local vendors.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve
Reviewed By: Karen Collins