



A Tradition of Stewardship  
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 6/6/2017

Agenda Placement: 6P

## NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** JoAnn Melgar for Howard Himes - Director  
Health & Human Services Administration

**REPORT BY:** JoAnn Melgar, Staff Services Analyst II - 707-253-4722

**SUBJECT:** Agreement with Psynergy Programs, Inc.

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

Director of Health and Human Services requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign an agreement with Psynergy Programs, Inc. for an annual maximum of \$100,000 for the term February 9, 2017 through June 30, 2017 and each automatic renewal thereof for twenty-four hour mental health services in a locked adult residential facility serving individuals with significant mental health issues and medical complexities.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Psynergy Programs, Inc. (Psynergy) operates adult residential board and care homes and outpatient mental health clinics in Morgan Hill, Sacramento, and Greenfield California. Psynergy has expertise in treating seriously mentally ill adults in therapeutic locked settings and is a less expensive alternative to Napa State Hospital.

Approval of this agreement will give Napa County Mental Health a viable placement alternative to more restrictive, more expensive, less therapeutic settings for clients with serious mental illnesses that require locked placements. Services under this agreement are authorized specialty mental health services that will be billed to Medi-Cal, which will offset treatment costs.

Staff is requesting that this agreement begin as of February 9, 2017 as a Napa County Mental Health client who had been at the Napa State Hospital, needed an alternative placement. Psynergy, which is normally full, had an available bed and it was in the client's best interest to be placed there as soon as possible.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact?                      Yes

Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	Health & Human Services Mental Health
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	Approval of the requested action is discretionary in that there is no mandate to contract with this provider. However, the County receives funding from the State and is required to place mental health clients in the most appropriate level of care. The requested amendment will allow the County's Mental Health Division to utilize this placement option rather than other, higher cost institutional settings to meet the needs of seriously mentally ill adults.
Is the general fund affected?	No
Future fiscal impact:	Although the agreement terminates June 30, 2017, it contains a provision for automatic annual renewal, which allows the County the option to continue these services into the next fiscal year. Appropriations for future fiscal years will be budgeted accordingly.
Consequences if not approved:	If the agreement is not approved, the County would need to seek alternative locations, such as with Napa State Hospital and higher cost Institution for Mental Disease (IMD) facilities to provide the level of care for clients in this population, It will result in higher expenditures for Health and Human Services Agency.
Additional Information:	

### **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**

The need to provide stable housing and effective clinical services for adults with severe mental illness remains a challenge for many county agencies. Psynergy Programs, Inc. (Psynergy) offers adult residential board and care homes and outpatient mental health clinics in close proximity. Psynergy has demonstrated that providing reliable adult residential home care in combination with intensive outpatient mental health services can help individuals with mental illness avoid the unnecessary expense and emotional trauma often associated with incarceration and hospitalization. Psynergy provides both residential services and mental health services to people with serious mental illnesses ages 18 and above. The program utilizes tenets of the Wellness and Recovery, Integrated Dual Diagnosis Treatment and Modified Therapeutic Community treatment models and are an alternative to locked settings such as a State Hospital, Psychiatric Hospital, an Institute for Mental Disease (IMD), a Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) and Jail. The ultimate goal of Psynergy's services is to improve each individual's quality of life, to help individuals gain the skills and ability necessary to stay out of locked hospital settings and to move into a less restrictive living arrangement in the community.

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### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Bret Prebula