



OFFICE OF THE AGENCY DIRECTOR
1000 San Leandro Blvd., Suite 300
San Leandro, CA 94577
TEL (510) 618-3452
FAX (510) 351-1367

June 13, 2023

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
Administration Building
1221 Oak Street
Oakland, CA 94612

SUBJECT: APPROVE FISCAL YEAR 2024 MASTER CONTRACT AMENDMENTS WITH A BETTER WAY, INC., EAST BAY AGENCY FOR CHILDREN, FRED FINCH YOUTH CENTER, LINCOLN, AND SENECA FAMILY OF AGENCIES TO PROVIDE SCHOOL-BASED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AT SCHOOLS IN OAKLAND AND ALAMEDA

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Approve new Procurement Contracts under Master Contract Agreements to provide School-Based Behavioral Health services at Oakland and Alameda schools as a result of a competitive procurement process for the contract period of 7/1/23 – 6/30/24, in the total amount of \$4,425,000:
1. A Better Way, Inc. (Procurement No. 25325 Master Contract No. 900874; Principal: David Channer; Location: Berkeley) in the amount of \$925,000;
 2. East Bay Agency for Children (Procurement No. 25326; Master Contract No. 900112; Principal: Josh Leonard; Location: Oakland) in the amount of \$600,000;
 3. Fred Finch Youth Center (Procurement No. 25331; Master Contract No. 900114; Principal: Thomas Alexander; Location: Oakland) in the amount of \$725,000;
 4. Lincoln (Procurement No. 25332; Master Contract No. 900117; Principal: Allison Becwar; Location: Oakland) in the amount of \$725,000;
 5. Seneca Family of Agencies (Procurement No. 25334; Master Contract No. 900121; Principal: Leticia Galyean; Location: Oakland) in the amount of \$1,450,000; and
- B. Delegate authority to the Agency Director or designee to negotiate and execute the agreement through the Community-Based Organization master contract process subject to review and approval as to form by County Counsel and submit an executed copy to the Clerk of the Board for filing.

DISCUSSION/ SUMMARY

Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services (ACBH) is requesting to award five existing community-based organizations (CBOs) A Better Way, Inc. (ABW), East Bay Agency for Children (EBAC), Fred Finch Youth Center (FFYC), Lincoln, and Seneca Family of Agencies (Seneca) to deliver school-based behavioral health (SBBH) services at fourteen school sites. The fourteen schools consist of seven Charter Schools located in Oakland and Alameda, and seven public schools in Oakland Unified School District (OUSD). These programs will provide SBBH services to school-age children and youth to address their mental, emotional, and behavioral issues, and/or substance use issues that create a barrier to effective learning. These providers are being recommended for contract award as a result of a Request for Proposal (RFP) process.

ACBH's Child and Young Adult System of Care (CYASOC) has a history of partnership with CBOs and school districts to provide SBBH services to children and youth, age five through 21 years old, who fit the criteria for receiving specialty mental health services. The goals of SBBH programs are to enhance the client's mental health status, positive coping strategies, and life skills; and increase the client's ability to actively participate and engage in school, home, and other community settings. SBBH programs include mental health, case management and crisis intervention, and generally serve a monthly caseload of between 18 and 20 students per clinical staff, and 25 unduplicated clients annually per clinical staff. Each SBBH program awarded through the RFP shall maintain one to two Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) clinical staff. Your Board's approval will support the provision of SBBH services to children and youth, helping to increase access to quality services and positively impact students' lives.

SELECTION CRITERIA

ACBH released a Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 22-04 on July 1, 2022, for the provision of SBBH programs at 14 school sites in Oakland and Alameda.

Under this RFP, multiple separate competitive bidding processes were administered to procure services for each school site or grouping of school sites. The RFP was advertised for 33 days using the General Services Agency (GSA) advertising guidelines by posting on the ACBH and GSA websites. In addition, a courtesy email was sent to ACBH's contracted providers and other ACBH contacts via existing email distribution lists, including Small, Local and Emerging Businesses (SLEB). ACBH held two bidder's conferences on July 15 and 18, 2022 with attendance from 11 agencies.

Oakland and Alameda Charter Schools

An evaluation panel consisting of three subject matter experts from ACBH, the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency (HCSA), and an Oakland charter school was conducted between September 26-27, 2022, to review and score the eight bid proposals received. A Better Way, EBAC, and Seneca were recommended for award. The table below summarizes the results of this competitive bidding process and the evaluation panel's recommendation for this contract award.

School(s)/Program Name	Bidder	Certified, Small, Local and Emerging Business (SLEB)	Score
Academy of Alameda	A Better Way	Yes	355
	Alameda Family Services	Yes	347
Aspire	EBAC	No	380
	Alternative Family Services	No	293
Achieve and Lazear	EBAC	No	380
	Alternative Family Services	No	292
Cox Academy and Learning without Limits	Seneca	No	403
Lighthouse	Seneca	No	302

The bidders were notified via email and certified mail of the evaluation panel’s recommendations on October 11, 2022. There was no bid protest or appeal submitted for this competitive bidding process. As nonprofit, community-based organizations, EBAC and Seneca are exempt from the requirements of the County’s SLEB program. A Better Way (No. 09-00305; Expires 10/31/2024) has elected to become a SLEB certified provider.

Oakland Unified School District

An evaluation panel consisting of three subject matter experts from ACBH, San Francisco City and County, and Contra Costa County was conducted between September 28-29, 2022, to review and score the fourteen bid proposals received. Two bids were disqualified because the bids exceeded the maximum contract allocation, and one bid was disqualified because the Bidder failed to demonstrate how they met the Bidder Minimum Qualifications. A Better Way, FFYC, Lincoln, and Seneca were recommended for award. The table below summarizes the results of this competitive bidding process and the evaluation panel’s recommendation for this contract award.

School(s)/Program Name	Bidder	Certified, SLEB	Score
North & Central (Piedmont and Allendale)	A Better Way	Yes	414
	Lincoln	No	355
	STARS	No	358
	Wellness and Equity Alliance	Disqualified	
	TrueCare 24, Inc.	Disqualified	
Madison Park	Fred Finch	No	406
	Felton Institute	No	288
	Wellness and Equity Alliance	Disqualified	
East Region 1 (Franklin and OAK)	Lincoln	No	408
	STARS	No	391

School(s)/Program Name	Bidder	Certified, SLEB	Score
East Region 2 (Markham and Burkhalter)	Seneca	No	405
	Alternative Family Services	No	269
	EBAC	No	375
	Felton Institute	No	286

The bidders were notified via email and certified mail of the evaluation panel’s recommendations on October 11, 2022. There was no bid protest or appeal submitted for this competitive bidding process. As nonprofit, community-based organizations, Fred Finch, Lincoln, and Seneca are exempt from the requirements of the County’s SLEB program. A Better Way (No. 09-00305; Expires 10/31/2024) has elected to become a SLEB certified provider.

FINANCING

Appropriations are funded by Medi-Cal Federal Financial Participation and 2011 Realignment already included in the ACBH FY 2023-24 Approved Budget. Approval of this recommendation will have no impact on net County costs.

VISION 2026 GOAL

The provision of School-Based Behavioral Health services meets the 10X goal pathway of **Healthcare for All**, in support of the shared vision of a **Thriving and Resilient Population**.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

 CB284AE84C50405...

Colleen Chawla, Director
 Health Care Services Agency

CC/WV/mw/mr