

April 28, 2025

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Alameda
1221 Oak Street
Oakland, CA 94612

SUBJECT: APPROVE A MULTIYEAR CONTRACT WITH BAY AREA COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC. TO PROVIDE OUTREACH, ENGAGEMENT AND INTERIM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SUPPORTIVE SERVICES RELATED TO THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH DISABILITY RIGHTS CALIFORNIA AND THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,803,468

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. Approve a new Procurement Contract under a Master Contract Agreement with Bay Area Community Services, Inc. (Procurement No. 28508; Master Contract No. 900107; Principal: Jamie Almanza; Location: Oakland) to provide outreach, engagement and interim behavioral health services, as a result of a competitive procurement process, for the contract period of 6/1/25 – 6/30/26 in the amount of \$1,803,468;
- B. Delegate authority to the Alameda County Health Interim 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; and
- C. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to make related budget adjustments increasing appropriations by \$1,703,468 with offsetting revenue from Mental Health Services Act funding, Medi-Cal Federal Financial Participation and Medi-Cal Administrative Activities.

DISCUSSION/SUMMARY:

Alameda County Health, Behavioral Health Department (ACBHD) is requesting approval of a new contract agreement with Bay Area Community Services, Inc. (BACS) to provide supportive services for clients referred through ACBHD Acute Crisis Care and Evaluation for Systemwide Services (ACCESS). ACCESS is ACBHD's systemwide point of contact for information, screening, and referrals for behavioral health services for Alameda County residents. ACCESS strives to connect clients to care within ten days of referral. When a client is not connected promptly to a service provider, there is a risk of a client not receiving timely mental health services, and/or their condition deteriorating.

In January 2024, the County of Alameda, Disability Rights California (DRC), and the United States Department of Justice entered into a settlement agreement addressing community-based behavioral health services provided in Alameda County. As a part of the County's compliance with

the settlement agreement, the County is responsible for developing, implementing, and staffing a System Care Coordination Team to improve linkages to community-based services across the County's behavioral health system within two years of the effective date of the settlement agreement. The ACCESS Care Coordination Team (ACCT) is part of the County's commitment to improving ACBHD's system.

Through the ACCT, BACS will provide interim mental health and/or co-occurring substance use (SU) services for clients who would otherwise be unable to access services through ACBHD or its contracted providers timely due to capacity issues within existing programs. BACS will implement two teams: one Outreach and Engagement (O&E) and one Case Management. The O&E team will locate ACCESS referrals and complete a warm hand-off with the Case Management team who will provide time-limited interim mental health and co-occurring SU services while connecting clients to available and appropriate levels of care within the County mental health and SU systems.

Your Board's approval will improve and support linkages to community-based care across the County's behavioral health system by serving as an interim care provider while a more permanent referral is in process. The ACCT will assist the County in meeting the terms of the settlement agreement. ACBHD requests delegated authority aligning with the CBO master contract process to expedite this contract with approval as to form by County Counsel.

SELECTION CRITERIA/PROCESS:

On June 20, 2024, ACBHD released a Request for Proposal (RFP) 24-04 ACCESS Care Coordination Team. The RFP was advertised for 45 days using the General Services Agency (GSA) Guidelines by posting on the ACBHD and GSA websites. In addition, a courtesy email was sent to ACBHD's contracted providers and other ACBHD contacts via existing email distribution lists, including Small, Local, or Emerging Businesses (SLEBs). ACBHD held two Bidders' Conferences on July 10, 2024, and July 11, 2024, with attendance from seven agencies.

ACBHD received three service bids, all meeting the Bidder Minimum Qualifications. A County Selection Committee (CSC) evaluated the three qualified bids on October 23, 2024. BACS, The Alliance for Community Wellness dba La Familia Counseling Service (La Familia), and Bay Area Community Health (BACH) were invited for oral interviews on October 24, 2024. The CSC comprised of three subject matter experts from ACBHD ACCESS, San Mateo County, and a retired Community-Based Organization Executive Director. The table below summarizes the results of this competitive bidding process and the CSC's recommendation of BACS for this contract award.

<i>Bidder</i>	<i>Certified SLEB</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>Recommended for Award</i>
BACS	No	396	Yes
<i>La Familia</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>391</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>BACH</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>335</i>	<i>No</i>



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On October 31, 2024, the bidders were notified via email of the Evaluation Panel's recommendations. No bid protest or appeal was submitted for this RFP. As a non-profit, community-based organization, BACS is exempt from the County's SLEB program requirements.

FINANCING:

Mental Health Services Act funds (\$100,000) for this program are already included in the Fiscal Year 2024-25 ACBHD Budget. Appropriation and revenue adjustments including Mental Health Services Act funding (\$1,009,827), Medi-Cal Federal Financial Participation (\$593,641), and Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (\$100,000) are requested as final adjustments to the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget and will be requested in subsequent years. Approval of this recommendation will have no impact on net County cost.

VISION 2036 GOAL:

These services meet the 10X goal pathway of **Health for All** in support of our shared visions of a **Thriving & Resilient Population, Safe & Livable Communities** and **Healthy Environment**.

Sincerely,

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Aneeka Chaudhry, Interim Director
Alameda County Health