

Wendi Vargas
Contracts Director

March 12, 2026

Dear Alameda County, Behavioral Health Department (ACBHD)-Contracted Mental Health Provider,

ACBHD Contracts Unit is initiating the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-27 mental health contract renewal process. As ACBHD continues with implementation of multi-year contracts, some contracts may be indicated as multi-year via the interim contract and contract renewal documents that will be sent out to your organization later this spring.

We are sending out this letter in advance of your contract renewal due to the changes to the contract execution process that are outlined below. We will be working to package and send out your interim contract this spring, alongside the contract renewal process.

- Contract renewal packages, which will include further specifics for individual contracts, are planned to be sent out in late April through late May. Please be on the lookout for your contract renewal package.
- We ask that your organization sign your interim contract timely or alert your ACBHD Contract Manager(s) as soon as possible if there is a barrier to signature.

Updates to Contract Execution Process

Due to changes in the Alameda County Board of Supervisors (Board) requirements in approving contracts and amendments, ACBHD needs to have the contract documents packaged in May 2026. Also, due to new timelines and to avoid delays in payments, contracts may be processed with placeholder language; ACBHD will continue to work with your organization to process a subsequent amendment for additional vetted changes.

- ACBHD will need you to sign contract documents promptly and/or quickly flag any substantive barriers to your ACBHD Contract Manager(s).
- ACBHD may need to update the signatory from the Board to the ACBHD Director after your organization has signed, depending on timing.

Contract Allocation

The contract allocation that will be shown in your interim contract and contract renewal is subject to Alameda County Board of Supervisors (BOS) final approval of the County budget. Should any change occur to the contract allocation as a result of the County budget process, your organization will be notified in writing.

The current contract allocation cannot be expanded at this time. If you have questions regarding your contract allocation, please contact your Contract Manager(s).

County Contract Maximum Rate

The existing County Contract Maximum Rate (CCMR) applies to FY 2026-27 mental health rate-based programs.

Cost-of-Living Adjustment

When applicable, a Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) of four percent (4%) is planned for FY 2026-27 for any portion of a contract with County General Fund (Board approved).

Note: Not all funding sources are eligible for a COLA.

One-Time and Time-Limited Funds

The allocation may include one-time or time-limited funding, which is subject to an annual departmental approval process, and does not automatically carry over into subsequent FYs.

For programs participating in Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) billing, the FY 2026-27 allocations will include MAA incentive awards earned for services delivered in FYs 2022-23 and 2023-24. There continues to be a delay at the state with MAA billing approvals. The base billing numbers for FYs 2024-25 and 2025-26 are not yet available and upon State approval, the incentive awards will be added to the applicable program's allocation.

Measure A Allocation

Based upon revenue projections, there will not be a FY 2026-27 COLA for Measure A funded programs.

Rates

Due to recent changes in billing services to Medi-Cal by Common Procedural Terminology (CPT) code, and the impact on revenue projections, ACBHD will have limited ability to approve rate increases.

Updated Certificates of Insurance and Cash Advance

As a reminder, per Exhibit C of your contract, ACBHD requires you to maintain insurance coverage. To avoid delays in processing your contract and/or payments in the new FY, please ensure that you submit updated certificates promptly to your ACBHD Contract Manager(s).

If requesting for a cash advance, visit <http://www.acbhcs.org/providers/network/forms.htm> for current Cash Advance Request form (last update 4/4/2018), and include all required documentation such as your agency's current Employee Dishonesty and Crime insurance certificate and Loss Payable Endorsement. If your insurance expires in July or early August 2025, please wait to submit your organization's cash advance request until you have received your updated certificate of insurance. Cash Advances and associated documentation should be sent together in one email:

- To: CBOPayment@acgov.org
- Subject: Cash Advance_CBO Name

Changes to Standard Contract Language

For FY 2026-27, your organization can start reviewing changes to the standard contract language/requirements, highlighted in yellow, here: <https://bhcsproviders.acgov.org/providers/network/forms.htm#contract>. ACBHD will include applicable changes in your new contract.

Contract-Specific Information and Requesting Changes to your Contracted Program(s)

As in prior FYs, your contract renewal package which will be sent later in the spring will contain:

- A Budget Workbook: Exhibit B-1, with specific allocations indicated per FY and a tab with more specific information on how to complete your Budget Workbook for FY 26-27.
- Draft Exhibit A-Scopes of Work (SOWs) for the new FY.
- A Contract Input Form for you to notify ACBHD of any substantive requested changes to your contracted programs.
- Instructions for submitting the Budget Workbook, Contract Input Form and updated Certificates of Insurance to ACBHD.

If you have additional questions about your contract, please contact your ACBHD Contract Manager(s). If you need assistance identifying your Contract Manager(s), please reach out to the Contracts Unit: Contracts@acgov.org or (510) 567-8296.

Sincerely,

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Wendi Vargas
ACBHD Contracts Director

cc: Cecilia Serrano, ACBHD Finance Director
Rickie Michelle Lopez, ACBHD Assistant Finance Director
ACBHD Contracts Staff
Provider Contract File