

# The County of Yuba

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Assistant County Administrator, Sean Powers

**SUBJECT:** County Administrator: approve professional services agreement with Barbie Robinson to assess Yuba County's existing Behavioral Health System, provide technical assistance, implementation support, and authorize Chair to execute.

**DATE:** January 9, 2024

**NUMBER:** 650/2023

## *Recommendation*

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve professional services agreement with Barbie Robinson to assess Yuba County's existing Behavioral Health System, provide technical assistance, implementation support, and authorize Chair to execute.

## *Background & Discussion*

Both Yuba and Sutter County desire to evaluate the current Behavioral Health system, the Memorandum of Understanding with Yuba-Sutter Behavioral Health, and evaluate optional models of service delivery. Yuba County identified a need to retain a technical expert to work with, advise, and advocate on behalf of Yuba County. Historically and currently, Yuba-Sutter Behavioral Health is led by Sutter County Health and Human Services.

In Phase 1, we are proposing a collaborative approach working with Sutter County with one of the first steps to develop a resolution directing the assessment and identification of options for the delivery of behavioral health services adopted by both Counties. Additional technical steps are contained in the "As-Is" assessment of services, data, mandates, organizational structure, funding, and expenses. Phase 1 also includes determining a best system model reviewing alternatives and costs along with identifying key personnel and expertise required.

Phase 2 includes technical assistance and implementation support that develops an implementation plan that lays out a step by step guide and phased approach to support Yuba County's implementation model. This requires evaluating a timeline, staffing, key activities related to programming, and fiscal and administrative operations.

There is an optional scope of work including monitoring and evaluation of the new system. This may include audits of financial and program activities, assessment of cost and revenue projections, determining risks, and/or whether the new model requires modification. Significant changes in programming are on the horizon from the State of California. There are four optional scopes of work related to specific project/program implementations: Care Court, CalAIM implementation, Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST), and Public Guardian and Conservatorship programming. Separate scopes of work would need to be developed before consideration and implementation of contract services for these program models.

Community engagement and education strategy for implementation activities is included throughout the scope of this contract.

Ms. Robinson has over 27 years of experience in health care administration, policy, and research. She currently serves as the Executive Director for Harris County, Texas Public Health (HCPH). Previously, she served as Director of Sonoma County Department of Health Services (DHS) for five years. Before Sonoma County, she worked at the Federal level at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for 15 years overseeing the administration of Federal healthcare programs, including Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, the Medicare Fee-for-Service program, and the Affordable Care Act. She held numerous leadership positions at CMS, including Associate Regional Administrator (ARA) of the San Francisco and Atlanta Regional Offices Division of Financial Management & Fee-for-Service Operations.

Ms. Robinson holds Bachelor of Arts with a triple major (Political Science, Spanish, and International Sociology) from Middlebury College, a Master of Public Policy, Health and Social Policy from Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy, and a Juris Doctor from the George Washington University Law School and was admitted to the California Bar in 2000.

*Committee Action:*

Due to previous direction from the Board and including this item in the current budget, this item is being presented directly to the Board.

*Fiscal Impact:*

Board Approved FY 2023-24 budget appropriation of \$50,000 for this fiscal year.

Total Obligation is \$195,120 over a three-year contract. The scope of work contains optional additional work that may brought back to the Board for approval. This work may encompass a three to five

year project. Total projected cost for this fiscal year may increase depending on scope of work performed in the next six months.

Source of Funds - General Fund \$195,120 over three fiscal years

*Attachments*

Behavioral Health Support B. Robinson Contract