

# The County of Yuba



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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Matt Ricardy, Chief Probation Officer

**SUBJECT:** Probation: Approve Memorandum of Understanding with Sutter-Yuba Behavioral Health for the provision of a Qualified Individual (QI) to provide behavioral health assessments for children and youth in foster care for the term of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027, and authorize Chair to execute.

**DATE:** October 22, 2024

**NUMBER:** 593/2024

## *Recommendation*

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Yuba County Probation Department (Probation) and Sutter-Yuba Behavioral Health (SYBH), for the provision of providing a Qualified Individual (QI) to provide behavioral health assessments and recommendations for treatment to children and youth in foster care at risk of placement in a Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) for the term of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027 and authorize chair to sign.

## *Background*

The Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) requires that an assessment must be completed by a Qualified Individual (QI) who is a trained professional or licensed clinician whenever a child or youth is at risk of placement in a STRTP. The purpose of the assessment is to determine whether the child or youth's needs can be met with family members, in a family home, or other approved setting. FFPSA requires that all children and youth placed into congregate care receive an objective assessment, conducted by a QI, to determine the setting which will provide the child with the most effective and appropriate level of care in the least restrictive environment, consistent with the short and long-term goals for the child, as specified in their permanency plan.

*Discussion*

This MOU establishes that Probation will refer Yuba County Probation children, youth, and/or non-minor dependents who have entered or are at risk of entering into an STRTP level placement to the Sutter-Yuba Behavioral Health QI for assessment. SYBH will provide a QI to conduct behavioral health assessment(s) and recommendations for treatment to these children, youth, and/or non-minor dependents that is aligned with Intensive Case Coordination (ICC).

The QI will determine and document whether the assessed needs of the child can be met by family members, in another family-based setting, or in a tribally approved home in the case of an Indian child. In making this determination, the QI will perform and document the following:

1. An assessment of the strengths and needs of the child using California Integrated Practice Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (IP-CANS).
2. The treatment needs of the child, including short and long-term mental and behavioral health goals.
3. The QI must provide the QI Assessment Summary Report to the placing agency and the STRTP, or an out-of-state residential facility in which the child is or may be placed.
4. Identify the barriers to family-based placement and assessment of whether services and supports may enable a family-based caregiver to meet those needs.

*Committee Action*

Committee was bypassed as there is no impact to general funds.

*Fiscal Impact*

General Fund	None
Non-General Fund	None
Source of Funds	State and Federal funds

*Attachments*

593/2024 FFPSA Part IV QI MOU 2024-2027