



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

October 19, 2021

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

**SUBJECT: APPROVE FISCAL YEAR 2022 SERVICES-AS-NEEDED PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS WITH CULTURAL AWARENESS, INC. TO PROVIDE SHORT-TERM RESIDENTIAL THERAPEUTIC PROGRAM SERVICES AND WITH MONTE NIDO LAKE VISTA, LLC AND MONTE NIDO RESIDENTIAL CENTER, LLC TO PROVIDE EATING DISORDER TREATMENT SERVICES**

Dear Board Members:

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- A. Approve three new Services-As-Needed (SAN) Agreements to be added to the existing pool of 32 SAN specialty mental health providers (Master Contract No. 000001), for the period of 10/1/21 – 6/30/22 with no change in the pooled amount of \$7,667,835:
- i. Cultural Awareness, Inc. (Principal: Lasondra Jones; Location: Oakland; Procurement Contract No. 22843) to provide outpatient services to youth as part of the Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program;
  - ii. Monte Nido Lake Vista, LLC (Principal: Mike Bagley; Locations: Miami, FL; Procurement Contract No. 22953) to provide eating disorder treatment services for individuals 12 years of age and older;
  - iii. Monte Nido Residential Center, LLC (Principal: Mike Bagley; Location: Miami, FL; Procurement Contract No. 22952) to provide eating disorder treatment services for individuals 12 years of age and older; and
- B. Adopt a Resolution to waive the County's competitive procurement process for Cultural Awareness, Inc. with respect to this contract to ensure there are appropriate Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program-licensed providers for foster children and youth under the new Continuum of Care Reform; and
- C. Delegate authority to the Agency Director, or designee, to negotiate and execute the agreements 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 approval of three new Services-As-Needed (SAN) contracts with Cultural Awareness, Inc. (Cultural Awareness), Monte Nido Lake Vista, LLC (Monte Nido Lake) and Monte Nido Residential Center, LLC (Monte Nido Residential) to provide specialty services to individuals experiencing serious mental health and eating disorders.

Cultural Awareness is licensed by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide the Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) level of care intended for children and youth whose behavioral and therapeutic needs are not currently able to be met in a home-based family setting, even with the provision of supportive services. ACBH, as a Mental Health Plan and through its Agreement with the State Department of Health Care Services, is responsible for ensuring Alameda County Medi-Cal beneficiaries have access to medically necessary mental health services and for paying all providers of specialty mental health services rendered to Medi-Cal beneficiaries. Your Board's approval of this contract will help the County meet regulatory requirements around STRTP and better support the needs of children and youth placed at STRTPs through Alameda County charge.

Effective January 1, 2017, Assembly Bill (AB) 403 and subsequent legislation established new licensed children's residential facilities called STRTPs, which are public agencies or private organizations licensed by the CDSS to provide integrated, high-quality, therapeutic programs as part of the Continuum of Care Reform. The Continuum of Care Reform comprehensively reforms placement and treatment options for foster children. The overarching goal of the STRTP is to provide trauma-informed treatment and integrated programming designed to address barriers to a young person's ability to safely reside and transition into a home-based family setting in support of permanency and continued well-being. Youth are placed at STRTP by Alameda County Social Services Agency (SSA) and/or Alameda County Probation and authorized for associated services through the Interagency Placement Committee (IPC).

The Monte Nido Lake and Monte Nido Residential facilities focus on the restoration of physiological and nutritional balance, the implementation of healthy eating and exercise routines, the elimination of destructive behaviors and the development of motivation and treatment engagement. The programs also emphasize the development of insight and coping skills for the emotional and psychological issues that create risk for relapse and can represent barriers to full recovery. The residential program offers clients with acute disorders a 24-hour and seven days per week level of care that includes medical and psychiatric care in a comfortable home-like setting. Depending on the client's treatment plan, services may include individual therapy, group therapy, family therapy, psychiatric care, medical care, and support around healthy nutrition and exercise.

The number of clients and level of services vary; therefore, it is not possible to accurately estimate the funding needed for each of these SAN providers. Therefore, predetermined allocations are not assigned to individual SAN contracts. Delegation of authority was previously requested and approved by your Board on June 8, 2021 (Item No. 7) when your Board approved the Fiscal Year 22 pool of 32 contracts to provide needed care for ACBH clients on June 8, 2021 (Item No. 7) and later augmented on September 28, 2021 (Item No. 12) to increase the pooled allocation to align with the projected State revenues.

Your Board's approval of these three SAN contracts will allow ACBH to enter into agreements with Cultural Awareness, Monte Nido Lake and Monte Vista Residential to provide much needed residential services to individuals with a serious mental health or eating disorder.

### **SELECTION CRITERIA**

*For Cultural Awareness, Alameda County Administrative Code, Title 4, Chapter 4.12.070 includes a provision for unusual cases recognized by the Board of Supervisors in the event that the services purchased will impact the health, safety, and welfare of people or property. It further states that the Purchasing Agent need not comply with Section 4.12.020 in unusual cases, such as the regulatory changes around Continuum of Care (CCR) and the need to support youth placed at STRTPS through Alameda County charge. In such unusual cases, the contracts shall be awarded to a firm or firms located in Alameda County, unless the Board of Supervisors directs otherwise (Ord. 96-76 § 1: prior Admin. Code § 4-3.07). ACBH is requesting your Board to adopt a resolution waiving the County's competitive bid requirements and adopt a contract with Cultural Awareness, Inc. to ensure compliance with applicable State mandates. As a nonprofit community-based organization providing direct services on*

*behalf of the County, Cultural Awareness, Inc. is exempt from requirements under the Small, Local and Emerging Business (SLEB) program.*

*For Monte Nido Lake and Monte Nido Residential, ACBH released Request for Pre-Qualification (RFPQ) No. 21-01 on April 13, 2021 to identify qualified bidders to provide Eating Disorder Treatment Services through SAN contracts. The RFPQ was advertised for 24 days using the General Services Agency (GSA) advertising guideline by posting on the ACBH and GSA websites. In addition, a courtesy email was sent to ACBH contracted providers and other ACBH contacts through existing email distribution lists.*

*Three bids for services were received under this RFPQ; all three bidders are affiliated but each one is its own legal entity. ACBH staff conducted a review of the bidder minimum qualifications, which all bidders met. Although, Monte Nido's headquarters is in the state of Florida, the residential treatment programs ACBH is requesting to contract with are located in California. The table below summarizes the results of this RFPQ process to award SAN contracts to these bidders.*

<b>Bidder</b>	<b>Certified, Small, Local or Emerging</b>	<b>Recommended for Award</b>
<b>Monte Nido Lake Vista, LLC</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Monte Nido Residential Center, LLC</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Brentwood - Eating Disorder Center of California, LLC</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>

*The bidders were notified through email and certified mail of ACBH's recommendation on June 15, 2020. No bid protest was received. The bidders are not located in Alameda County and are not eligible to participate in the Small, Local Emerging Business (SLEB) program. GSA issued SLEB waivers for Monte Nido Lake Vista, LLC (Reference no. 21348, Expiration: 6/30/22) and Monte Nido Residential Center, LLC (Reference no. 21349, Expiration: 6/30/22).*

**FINANCING**

Appropriations for these three contracts and the existing 32 specialty mental health providers in the SAN pool are fully offset by Medi-Cal, 1991 Realignment, 2011 Realignment and County General Funds already included in the ACBH FY 2021-22 Approved Budget. There is no increase in net County cost as a result of your approval.

**VISION 2026 GOAL**

The outpatient services for youth placed at the STRTP and the eating disorder treatment services meet the 10X goal pathway of **Healthcare for All** in support of the shared vision of a **Thriving and Resilient Population**.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Colleen Chawla, Director  
Health Care Services Agency

CC/EDV/lf/tc