



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**DATE:** January 14, 2014

**AGENDA ITEM NO.** 27

**Consent Agenda** ☐

**Regular Agenda** ☒

**Public Hearing** ☐

**County Administrator's Signature:**

**Subject:**

Cancellation of Contract – Behavioral Health Care – Pinellas County Health and Community Services  
Contract No: 090-0320-P(AM)

**Department:**

Health and Community Services / Purchasing

**Staff Member Responsible:**

Gwendolyn Warren / Joe Lauro

**Recommended Action:**

I RECOMMEND THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CANCEL THE CONTRACT FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE WITH DIRECTIONS FOR MENTAL HEALTH, INC D/B/A/ DIRECTIONS FOR LIVING, CLEARWATER, FLORIDA WITH THIRTY (30) DAYS NOTICE RETROACTIVE TO NOVEMBER 25, 2013 AS PROVIDED ON PAGE TWO (2), PARAGRAPH FIVE (5) OF THE AGREEMENT.

**Summary Explanation/Background:**

This contract provided integrated, short term behavioral health care services for eligible members of the Pinellas County Health Program. Recent changes within the Pinellas County Health Plan have caused the Department of Health and Community Services to reassess the manner in which care is provided to clients in order to achieve a more integrated delivery approach.

With the Community Health Centers' recent decision to opt out of the Pinellas County Health Program, services have been aligned with the Pinellas County Health Department. As a component of this alignment, behavioral health care services will be delivered through the Pinellas County Health Department as an adjustment to their existing service contract. In this way, the Pinellas County Health Department will further the integration of behavioral health care services to medical home clients in order to enhance and focus on preventative and clinical care for mental health ailments directly affecting the quality and outcomes of primary care health services.

This original behavioral health care services contract was initially approved by the Board on January 11, 2011 and was subsequently extended by the County Administrator on January 8, 2013 for a period of twenty four (24) months. The decision was made to cancel this contract effective December 31, 2013 requiring Board approval. Staff could not present the cancellation to the Board prior to the effective cancellation date of December 31, 2013; therefore the Administrator was requested to suspend this contract with thirty (30) days notice pending final Board consideration. The suspension was approved by the Administrator on November 25, 2013 and is provided under section 9.14 of the Board Purchasing Procedures.

**Fiscal Impact/Cost/Revenue Summary:**

This original behavioral health services contract provides for \$1,000,000 annually for the delivery of integrated behavioral health care services. Funding for the contract adjustment through the Pinellas County Department of Health will be established at \$300,000 for a nine (9) month term ending September 30, 2014. Services will focus on preventative and clinical care for mental health ailments directly affecting the quality and outcomes of primary care health services with clients requiring a higher level of behavioral health care services appropriately referred to the behavioral health system.

**Exhibits/Attachments:**

County Administrator Suspension

413757



Joe Lauro, CPPO/CPPB  
Director

TO: Robert S. LaSala, County Administrator  
FROM: Joseph Lauro, Director of Purchasing *Joe Lauro*  
SUBJECT: Suspension of Contract – Behavioral Health Care for Pinellas County HCS  
Contract No. 090-0320-P(AM)  
DATE: November 21, 2013

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**RECOMMENDATION:** I RECOMMEND THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR SUSPEND THE CONTRACT FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE, PINELLAS COUNTY HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES WITH DIRECTIONS FOR MENTAL HEALTH (DIRECTIONS), CLEARWATER, FLORIDA PER SECTION 9.14 OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER (BOARD) PURCHASING PROCEDURES

**CURRENT ANNUAL CONTRACT EXPENDITURE:** \$ 1,000,000.00

Funding derived through Lower Income Pool (LIP) funds

**DISCUSSION:** This contract for short term care behavioral health services for eligible members was approved by the Board on January 11, 2011 for a term of twenty four (24) months and was subsequently approved for extension by the County Administrator on January 1, 2013 for twenty four (24) months.

The Health and Community Services Department has decided to utilize the Pinellas County Health Department for short term care behavioral health services effective January 1, 2014. The contract with Directions contains provision for termination without cause provided thirty (30) day notice is sent to the firm. Only the Board has authority to cancel a Board approved contract; therefore, staff is requesting the County Administrator suspend the services with Directions per Section 9.14 of the Purchasing Procedures and provide Directions with a thirty day notice. Staff will seek Board cancellation of the contract with Directions at a later date retroactive to the date the County Administrator suspended the contract.

Section 9.14 of the Purchasing Policy authorizes the County Administrator to suspend contracts pending Board approval.

APPROVED: *Robert S. LaSala*

ROBERT S. LASALA  
County Administrator

Date of Approval: 11/21/13