



## Suspension of Competition Acquisition Request

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1. Fully describe the product(s) and/or service(s) being requested.

The Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) is requesting to execute a Master Service Agreement for Augmented Board and Care Services, effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2030 (3-1-1) with licensed adult residential facilities that are certified to augment said residential services with outpatient specialty mental health services for DBH persons served. The Master Service Agreement designation would allow the Department to consider all qualifying providers as potential additions to this agreement to allow for optimal placements for all persons served in need of such level of care. The Department will ensure appropriate review of all providers before requesting their addition to said Agreement. The Department has determined that there is a need in the community for this augmented level of care to have a contract of its own.

2. Identify the selected vendor and contact person; include the address, phone number and e-mail address for each.

Psynergy Programs, Inc.  
18225 Hale Avenue, Morgan Hill, CA 95037  
Arturo Uribe; auribe@psynergy.org; (408)465-8290 x1216

3. What is the total cost of the acquisition? If an agreement, state the total cost of the initial term and the amounts for potential renewal terms.

The total contract maximum and funding amounts per fiscal year are currently pending.

Contract Maximum - \$12,000,000

FY 2025-2026: \$2,400,000

FY 2026-2027: \$2,400,000

FY 2027-2028: \$2,400,000

FY 2028-2029: \$2,400,000

FY 2029-2030: \$2,400,000

The acquisition will not result in an increase in Net County Cost.

4. Identify the unique qualities and/or capabilities of the service(s) and/or product(s) that qualify this as a Suspension of Competition acquisition.

Contracted providers on this agreement are licensed to provide placement and specialized residential mental health services for seriously emotionally disturbed (SED) adults with severe and persistent mental health conditions. Such providers will provide residential services and augment said services with outpatient specialty mental health services. The California Department of Social Services through its Community Care Licensing Division retains a list of licensed facilities. DBH will contract with any licensed facility in good standing that is reviewed and is determined to meet the needs of the Conservator Team: providing licensed adult residential treatment, Medi-Cal certification for the provision of outpatient specialty mental health services, and compliance with all Fresno County Medi-Cal requirements.

5. Identify from Administrative Policy #34 what circumstances constitute a Suspension of Competition.

- ☐ In an emergency when goods or services are immediately necessary for the preservation of the public health, welfare, or safety, or for the protection of County property.
- ☐ When the contract is with a federal, state, or local governmental agency.
- ☐ When the department head, with the concurrence of the Purchasing Agent, finds that the cost of preparing and administering a competitive bidding process in a particular case will equal or exceed the estimated contract amount or \$5,000 whichever is more.
- ☐ When a contract provides only for payment of per diem and travel expenses and there is to be no payment for services rendered.
- ☐ When obtaining the services of expert witnesses for litigation or special counsel to assist the County.
- ☒ When in unusual or extraordinary circumstances, the Board of Supervisors or the Purchasing Agent/Purchasing Manager determines that the best interests of the County would be served by not securing competitive bids or issuing a request for proposal.

6. Explain why the unique qualities and/or capabilities described above are essential to your department.

The department maintains a network of contractors that provide several levels of care for conserved persons. This agreement is for a higher level of care for conserved persons. The need for these services has been increasing annually and it is necessary for the department to expand our network of specialized residential facilities to meet the needs of the people of Fresno County, especially for those who would benefit from receiving outpatient specialty mental health services alongside residential services. All future qualifying providers who are able to provide comparable services and are additionally able to serve this population are eligible for consideration to be added to this agreement.

7. Provide a comprehensive explanation of the research done to verify that the recommended vendor is the only vendor with the unique qualities and/or capabilities stated above. Include a list of all other vendors contacted, what they were asked, and their responses.

The County is required by Welfare Institution Code (WIC), Section 500 et seq. and California Code of Regulations (CCR), Sections 72001, et seq. to provide placement and specialized residential mental services for seriously emotionally disturbed (SED) adults with severe and persistent mental health conditions. The Department of Behavioral Health Recovery with Inspiration, Support, and Empowerment (RISE) Conservatorship and Community Conservatorship teams are consistently seeking additional placement facilities for County persons served in need of such placements. Referrals for persons under this level of care are based on assessments completed by the RISE Team. The RISE team constantly searches for facilities that provide appropriate treatment based on the persons served needs.

In order to identify facilities qualified and capable of meeting the specific clinical needs of the varied community of Fresno County persons served, DBH's Court Connected and Justice Services Division has entered into various master agreements with providers for multiple levels of care ranging from Institutions of Mental Disease (IMD) to Supplemental Board and Care Homes. Psynergy Programs, Inc. offers a completely unique level of care that is less intensive than an IMD but provides more structure and mental health support than the Supplemental Board and Care Homes. Through the inclusion of Outpatient Specialty Mental Health Services alongside the standard Adult Residential/Supplemental Board and Care Home services, this provider is able to meet the needs of County persons served who require additional support after discharge from an IMD level of care of higher, but are not yet ready for placement at a standard Supplemental Board and Care.

Psynergy offers 24-hour adult residential facilities for placement of County persons served, similar to a standard supplemental board and care home like those currently contracted through County Master Agreement A-22-230. However, Psynergy campuses are strategically designed to have neighboring/within walking distance Medi-Cal certified outpatient clinics to provide placed persons served with outpatient specialty mental health services to augment their treatment. This has been discussed with the currently contracted Board and Care homes as a potential alternative for their current operations during their quarterly provider meetings. The Department has categorized this level of care as a step-up from the current supplemental board and care model due to the addition of the outpatient specialty mental health services.

Psynergy Programs, Inc., who operates facilities out of Sacramento, Santa Clara, and Monterey Counties, is currently the only known provider who is offering this unique level of care, leading to multiple Counties such as Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Kings, Madera, and Santa Cruz, to enter into agreements with this provider. Due to the nature of our Agreements and the requirements for Medi-Cal outpatient reimbursement, the addition of such a provider requires an Agreement originating from Fresno County that specifically outlines Fresno County's requirements from all providers that are eligible for Medi-Cal billing. Approval of this Suspension will allow the Department to enter into a Master Agreement for Augmented Board and Care Services with this provider while allowing for future additions of other licensed, credentialed providers should they arise.

svanbruggen 4/29/2025 3:23:32 PM

Requested By:

Division Manager

Title

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**I approve this request to suspend competition for the service(s) and/or product(s) identified herein.**

sholt 5/1/2025 12:54:56 PM

Department Head Signature

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!

rblackburn 5/6/2025 3:38:49 PM

Purchasing Manager Signature

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