



Interoffice Memorandum

January 18, 2024

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings
-AND-
County Commissioners

FROM: Carrie Mathes, CFCM, NIGP-CPP, CPPO, C.P.M., Manager II, Procurement Division

CONTACT: Lisa Klier-Graham, Manager, Mental Health and Homelessness Division
407-836-3187

SUBJECT: Approval of Contract Y24-2216, Counseling Services in Community Action Centers

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approval of Contract Y24-2216, Counseling Services in Community Action Centers, with LBJ Behavioral Services, Inc., in the total contract amount of \$200,000 for an eight-month term. Further request Board authorization for the Procurement Division to renew the contract for two additional one-year terms.

PROCUREMENT:

This contract expands access to effective evidence-based interventions for mental health/behavioral health for individuals in all neighborhoods of the Orange County Community Action Centers. The performance period is February 12, 2024 through September 30, 2024.

FUNDING:

Funding is available in account number 0001-062-2501-8610.

APPROVALS:

The Mental Health and Homelessness Division concurs with this recommendation.

Remarks:

In accordance with the Code of Ordinances, Part 1, Chapter 17, Article III, Section 17-286 - Application and Exclusions, agreements between the Board and nonprofit organizations are excluded from competitive procurement requirements.

There is a need for increased behavioral/mental health services in Orange County as identified in both the Central Florida Collaborative's 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment and the Orange County Mental and Behavioral Health System of Care Community Analysis (2022). Efforts to expand access to behavioral health care have not

closed the gaps for black, indigenous, and other people of color. Racism, as well as structural inequalities like lack of insurance coverage, income inequality, and an insufficiently diverse workforce contribute to the persistent gaps in access to behavioral health services. Embedding quality mental health services utilizing evidence-based practices within community locations is a strategy to reduce the gaps in access.

LBJ Behavioral Services, Inc. is a newly formed non-profit organization with a mission to fill gaps in mental health services for individuals and families in the community by utilizing evidence-based therapeutic approaches in providing service to diverse populations. LBJ Behavioral Services, Inc. is dedicated to reducing barriers to accessing mental health services. The agency aims to remove financial barriers and deliver culturally competent and ethical care to ensure accessibility to quality mental health services. Mental health professionals, including licensed counselors and students under the supervision of a licensed counselor, will conduct the counseling sessions. The agency will provide services at a dedicated location within an existing center, as well as in the community, using telehealth and other in-person options, based on the needs of the individual.

The agency will use evidence based therapeutic interventions for behavioral/mental health disorders as appropriate to the age, developmental stage, and presenting symptomology of the child/adult being served which may include but is not limited to:

- a. Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
- b. Play Therapy
- c. Family Therapy modalities such a Structural Family Therapy and Solution Focused Family Therapy
- d. Modular Approach to Therapy for Children with Anxiety, Depression, Trauma, or Conduct Problems
- e. Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing Therapy
- f. Adoption Competency Treatment
- g. Person Centered Therapy

Major Program Goals

- a. To provide increased access to necessary behavioral/mental health services,
- b. To utilize evidence-based practices in assessment and counseling services,
- c. To provide culturally and linguistically competent services based on race, gender, nationality, sexuality, and religion and utilize best practices when interpretation or translation services are needed. Services will be available to accommodate the two most widely used languages outside of English in the community (Spanish and Creole) including use of bilingual staff, interpretation services, and translation of documents in these languages, for advertising, referral, and service provision.

Deliverables –The agency shall achieve the following process and performance measures, which shall be reported to the County:

Process Measures

- 75% of individuals referred by a Community Action Center receive an evidence-based universal screening as described in C-6 at intake.
 - 50% of individuals who begin services will successfully complete the recommended number of sessions identified at intake.
 - 85% of individuals who begin services and do not have an insurance source or funding mechanism for care will receive assistance with applying for insurance, for those eligible to obtain insurance within thirty days of intake.

Performance Measures

Outcome: Individuals served demonstrate measurable improvement/remission of their mental health symptoms identified in the intake screening process.

Indicator: The percentage of individuals served by the agency with an improvement/remission of mental health symptoms **Target: 50%**

Enrollment/referral criteria Any child/youth/adult, located in Orange County, Florida receiving services from the agency who is low-income, uninsured, or underinsured in which there is no other funding mechanism for necessary care.

Additional one-year renewals will receive funding of \$200,000 per year. The agency will be reimbursed at the following rates:

Reimbursement -

- Individual or Family Counseling Services - \$175 per 50 minute session
- Group Counseling Services - \$150 per 60 minute session
- Case Management Services - \$43.75 per 15 minutes