



# Health & Human Services Agency

## COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LARRY MICARI  
District One

PETE VANDER POEL  
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN  
District Three

EDDIE VALERO  
District Four

DENNIS TOWNSEND  
District Five

**AGENDA DATE:** July 30, 2024

Public Hearing Required	N/A
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	N/A
Published Notice Required	N/A
Advertised Published Notice	N/A
Meet & Confer Required	N/A
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	N/A
Personnel Resolution attached	N/A
Agreement(s) attached	Yes

CONTACT PERSON: Natalie Bolin, DSW, LCSW PHONE: 559-624-8000

**SUBJECT:** Approve an agreement with Community Services and Employment Training, Inc.

**REQUEST(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve an agreement with Community Services and Employment Training, Inc., to provide services for the Workforce Education and Training Supported Employment and Volunteer Program, in an amount not to exceed \$755,527, retroactive from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. This agreement is retroactive due to delays in finalizing the services that will be provided by the vendor; making it impracticable for the Board to take action prior to July 1, 2024.
2. Find that the Board had the authority to enter into the agreement as of July 1, 2024, and that it was in the County's best interest to enter into the agreement on that date.
3. Authorize the Chair of the Board to sign the agreement.

**SUMMARY:**

The Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency's (HHS) Behavioral Health Branch collaborates with Community Services and Employment Training, Inc. (CSET) to provide mental health support under the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Workforce Education and Training Supported Employment and Volunteer Program. Services are provided primarily at the CSET Employment Connections in Visalia, Tulare, and Porterville. However, CSET program staff often work within the community to meet where it is convenient for County consumers. CSET staff work with consumers to help them find work experience based on their talents and interests. CSET partners with local businesses like the Visalia Wellness Center, Porterville Wellness Center, Valley Oaks Golf Course, Que Pasa Restaurant, Fairfield Inn, Treasures Thrift Store, The Source

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LGBT+ Center, Visalia Rescue Mission, Love Inc., and Tulare Historical Museum, to provide consumers with employment and volunteer positions.

The Supported Employment and Volunteer Program is designed to provide evidence-based supported employment and volunteer services to Tulare County Behavioral Health consumers for whom competitive employment has not traditionally occurred or for whom competitive employment has been interrupted due to mental illness. The program will assist consumers in gaining valuable work experience and engaging in the competitive labor market. It is estimated that approximately 200 unduplicated consumers sixteen (16) years of age and older will be served through this proposed agreement for Fiscal Year 2024/2025.

HHSA's Behavioral Health Branch released a Request for Proposal (RFP) in October 2013 for the Supported Employment Program. Three proposals were received through the RFP process. The RFP Review Team reviewed the proposals and recommended that CSET be awarded the contract. Since being awarded the initial contract, CSET has continually provided these services and numerous volunteer and career support services to Tulare County Behavioral Health consumers.

**FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:**

The budgeted costs associated with this agreement will be included in the HHSA 001-142-3337 budget, line 7043 professional services, for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 in an amount not to exceed \$755,527. The average estimated cost per consumer is \$3,777. The estimated amount is subject to change based on actual utilization. This agreement is paid through MHSA revenues. There is no additional net County cost to the General Fund.

**LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:**

The County's five-year plan includes the Quality of Life initiative to promote and encourage the provision of quality supportive services for individuals in Tulare County. This agreement will assist Tulare County Behavioral Health consumers gain valuable work experience to better engage in the competitive labor market.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:**

/s/Gilberto Rivas OBO  
Natalie Bolin, DSW, LCSW  
Director of Mental Health

Cc: County Administrative Office

Attachments: Agreement