



# Pinellas County

## Staff Report

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**File #:** 20-118D, **Version:** 1

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### **Subject:**

Fourth Amendment to the Agreement with Suncoast Center, Inc. for the Behavioral Health High Utilizer program.

### **Recommended Action:**

Approval and execution by the County Administrator of the Fourth Amendment to the Agreement with Suncoast Center, Inc. (Suncoast) for the Behavioral Health High Utilizer Program (Program)

- The Fourth Amendment provides an extension of twelve (12) months to the contract to proceed with a fifth year of operation. The fifth year will focus on transition services for clients, connection to community programs, and reviewing how to meet future high utilizer needs.
- The Program provides intensive services to the highest utilizers of County hospitals, jail, and crisis stabilization unit.
- There is no increase associated with this Amendment as sufficient funding exists for services rendered through the revised contract completion date.

The Board of County Commissioners (Board) approved the original Program Agreement on May 10, 2016. Contract No. 156-0045-P (SCB) with no increase to the contract amount of \$3,230,608.00 with an average annual amount of \$650,862.00 for a twelve (12) month period through May 9, 2021.

### **Strategic Plan:**

Ensure Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

2.2 Be a facilitator, convener, and purchaser of services for those in need

2.3 Provide comprehensive services to connect our veterans and dependents to the benefits they have earned

2.4 Support programs that seek to prevent and remedy the causes of homelessness and move individuals and families from homelessness to permanent housing

### **Summary:**

This Fourth Amendment extends the contract for an I twelve (12) months pursuant to the same terms, conditions and pricing set forth in the Agreement. The goal of the Program is to better serve individuals with serious behavioral health disorders who are identified as "high utilizers." The Program seeks to greatly reduce the costly cycle of recidivism in jails, hospitals, and public Baker Act facilities while identifying critical system gaps to improve future service delivery.

The fifth year will focus on transition services for clients, connection to community programs, and

reviewing how to meet future high utilizer needs.

**Background/Explanation:**

The Board of County Commissioners (Board) approved the original Program Agreement on May 10, 2016. The First Amendment term extension and Second Amendment term extension were approved by the County Administrator. The Third Amendment (Amended and Restated to Non-Competitive Agreement) was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on May 21, 2019.

The target population for the Program was a pre-identified subset of thirty-three (33) individuals who were the most chronic users of the identified systems in 2014 with estimated costs for these individuals exceeding \$2.4 million.

Indications showed a reduction in deeper end crisis care and jail involvement under the program. The second-year report findings include jail cost reductions of 87.7% and shelter cost reductions of 93.9% over the baseline period. Year three evaluation is pending.

The Program provides intensive services to the highest utilizers of Pinellas County hospitals, jail, and crisis stabilization unit. Services include counseling, ongoing engagement, trauma informed care, supportive housing, detox/substance abuse treatment, and a range of additional services designed to aid in stabilization. Program partners meet on a regular basis to discuss system coordination and needs surrounding the program.

**Fiscal Impact:**

There is no increase associated with this Amendment. Sufficient funding is available to pay for services rendered through the revised contract completion date.

Current approved expenditure: \$3,230,608.00

Annual expenditure not to exceed: \$650,862.00

Funding is derived from the Human Services' budget.

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**Delegated Authority:**

Authority for the County Administrator to approve and execute this Amendment is granted under Code Section 2-188 (d).

**Staff Member Responsible:**

Daisy Rodriguez, Director, Human Services

Merry Celeste, Division Director of Purchasing and Risk Management, Administrative Services

**Partners:**

Suncoast Center, Inc.

Boley Centers

Directions for Living

Sixth Judicial Circuit Public Defender's Office Pinellas County Sheriff's Office

Central Florida Behavioral Health Westcare Gulfcoast-Florida, Inc.  
Operation PAR  
Baycare Health Systems  
Personal Enrichment Mental Health Services Vincent House  
University of South Florida  
Municipal Law Enforcement  
Various Community Partners

**Attachments:**

Fourth Amendment