



# AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Control: 26001059

**MEETING DATE:** 04/28/2026

**LEGAL ENTITY TAKING ACTION:** Board of Supervisors

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DISTRICT(S):** District 1 and District 2

**SUBMITTING AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** Health Care Agency

**DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSON(S):** Veronica Kelley, 714-834-7024  
Ian Kemmer, 714-834-2160

**SUBJECT:** Renewal Amendment to Contract for Children’s Specialized Services

CEO CONCUR	COUNTY COUNSEL REVIEW	CLERK OF THE BOARD
Concur	Approve agreement to form	DISCUSSION
		3 Votes Board Majority

<b>Budgeted:</b> N/A	<b>Current Year Cost:</b> N/A	<b>Annual Cost:</b> FY 2026-27 \$5,200,000
<b>Staffing Impact:</b> No		<b>Sole Source:</b> No
<b>Current Fiscal Year Revenue:</b> N/A	<b>Funding Source:</b> See Financial Impact Section	<b>County Audit in Last 3 years:</b> No

**Levine Act Review**

**Completed?** Yes

**Prior Board Action:** 5/20/2025 #33, 5/24/2022 #37

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

1. Approve Amendment No. 7 to renew the Contract with Waymakers, for provision of Children's Specialized Services, effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, for an amount not to exceed \$5,200,000, for a revised cumulative contract total amount not to exceed \$26,000,000.
2. Authorize the County Procurement Officer or Deputized designee to execute Amendment No. 7 to the Contract with Waymakers, as referenced in the Recommended Action above.

**SUMMARY:**

Approval of Amendment No. 7 to renew the Contract with Waymakers for provision of Children's Specialized Services will provide ongoing services in a home-like setting for children and youth who have serious emotional disturbances and are at risk of homelessness, out of home placement and need respite.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

On May 24, 2022, Your Honorable Board of Supervisors (Board) approved the Contract with Waymakers for provision of Children's Specialized Services and on May 20, 2025, the Board approved Amendment No. 3 to renew the contract for one year. The contract is renewing for its final year of service and will not be going out for bid.

The proposed Amendment No. 7 will allow services to continue through June 30, 2027, with an annual amount not to exceed \$5,200,000. The Orange County Preference Policy is not applicable to this Amendment.

The below actions have been executed pursuant to appropriate authorities:

Board Date	Contract/ Amendment	Action	Term	Contract Amount
May 24, 2022	Contract	Board Approved Contract	July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025	\$15,600,000
N/A	Amendment No. 1 Amendment No. 2  Amendment No. 4  Amendment No. 5  Amendment No. 6	Deputy Purchasing Agent (DPA) Delegated Authority Administrative Amendment	November 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025 March 31, 2025 – June 30, 2025 July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026 December 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026 March 5, 2026 – June 30, 2026	N/A
May 20, 2025	Amendment No. 3	Board Approved Term Renewal	July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026	\$5,200,000

### Scope of Services

Children’s Specialized Services (CSS) provide voluntary, community-based crisis support for youth ages 12 to 17 years who are experiencing serious emotional disturbances and behavioral health crises and can be safely diverted from psychiatric hospitalization. CSS also provides step down support to youth transitioning home from hospitalization. Referrals are made by the Health Care Agency’s (HCA) Behavioral Health Services (BHS), Children and Youth programs and other approved HCA providers. CSS services include crisis intervention, behavioral health services, individual and family therapy, targeted case management, educational support, group activities, transportation and services for cooccurring disorders. CSS also provides voluntary short-term shelter services and supervision for youth ages 12 to 17 years who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and for children up to age 18 years if enrolled in high school or its equivalent. CSS provides services for up to three weeks and offers graduate groups post discharge. The program focuses on building resiliency for the client and the family, ensuring a smooth transition to a lower level of care in the community.

Performance Measurements	Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25	FY 2025-26 (Jul-Dec)
Total admissions tracked.	122	120
At least seventy-five percent (75%) of individuals returned to the community shall be successfully linked (keep appointment) to on-going mental health services within fourteen (14) calendar days of discharge.	46%	57%
The rate of readmission to any Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) within two (2) calendar days of discharge will be tracked and remain below two percent (2%) of all admissions.	0%	0%
The rate of mobile Crisis Assessment Team (CAT) response within two (2) calendar days of discharge will remain below five percent (5%) of all admissions.	4%	4%

Waymakers has made significant improvements in linking clients upon discharge and are on track to reach the 75 percent goal in the next six months. Waymakers has made improvements in the following areas: scheduling appointments prior to discharge, increasing warm hand-offs and by providing transportation and follow-up services to ensure attendance at scheduled appointments.

HCA has developed a Good Neighbor Policy that is included in Residential Program contracts. HCA has not received any negative feedback from the community regarding this contractor or the services they provide. HCA will continue to work with the contractor and the community to ensure positive community relations. The table below represents the three sites served by this Contract.

City	Total number of beds at each location
Tustin	6
Tustin	6
Huntington Beach	4

Providers are required to follow all Medi-Cal regulations for services, billing and HCA standards for quality, responsiveness, and family engagement.

The Contractor’s performance has been confirmed as satisfactory. HCA has verified there are no concerns that must be addressed with respect to Contractor’s ownership/name, litigation status or conflicts with County interests.

This contract includes subcontractors. See Attachment B for information regarding subcontractors and Contract Summary Form.

HCA requests that the Board approve the Amendment to the Contract for the provision of Children’s Specialized Services with Waymakers, as referenced in the Recommended Actions.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Appropriations for this Contract will be included in Budget Control 042 FY 2026-27 Budget.

**Funding Sources:**

State: 80% (Behavioral Health Service Act)

Fees/Other: 20% (Federal Financial Participation Medi-Cal)

The Contract includes provisions allowing HCA to terminate the Contracts, reduce the level of services, and/or renegotiate the levels of services provided, as necessary. This includes a notice that allows HCA adequate time to transition or terminate services to clients, if necessary.

**STAFFING IMPACT:**

An analysis was completed to verify the contract provides County with persons specially trained, experienced, expert and competent to perform the special services in accordance with the law.

**REVIEWING AGENCIES/DEPARTMENTS:**

Office of Care Coordination

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A - Amendment No. 7 to MA-042-22011504

Attachment B - Contract Summary Form