EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In 2009 Glenn County became the fiduciary agent for the Superior Region of counties for the purpose of applying for and receiving regional funding from the Mental Health Services Act. The state awarded funding for the development and operation of a regional Workforce, Education, and Training (WET) Program.

This Agreement with the California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions (CIBHS) is for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 and is to allow for final distribution of funds in accordance with direction from the Mental Health Directors for the counties that make up the Superior Region.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

Authorize the Glenn County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) Director, as the fiduciary agent for the Superior Regional Partnership, to execute the Agreement between the County of Glenn and the CIBHS, for the fiscal administration of the Workforce, Education, and Training Program for fiscal year 2019-2020, and to modify or amend the Agreement contingent upon review and approval of County Counsel, the Director of Finance, and the County Administrative Officer for an amount not to exceed $343,000.

HISTORY AND BACKGROUND:

The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) included the allocation of funding to statewide and regional projects, with regional projects consisting of WET programs. Funding was allocated from MHSA to the state Department of Health Care Services and subsequently, the regional partnerships. The Department of Health Care Services has issued the amount of $600,000.00 (six hundred thousand dollars) to the Superior Regional Partnership each fiscal year since FY08/09.

The Superior Regional WET Partnership consists of the Counties of Del Norte, Siskiyou, Modoc, Humboldt, Trinity, Shasta, Lassen, Tehama, Mendocino, Glenn, Butte, Sierra, Lake, Colusa, and Nevada. The partnership creates a distance learning program so that residents within the region that
live far from a college campus can earn an advanced degree. The program provides a career pathway to ensure the advancement of qualified professionals with experience in wellness and recovery to create collaborative relationships, to guide educational institutions in meeting the workforce needs of member counties, and to provide training and technical assistance.

The efforts of the partnership for the development of curricula in wellness and recovery, systems collaboration, and integrated services were some of the first developed and remain some of the only models in the state. The hybrid distance learning program that delivers a graduate degree program to students on their desktops, laptops, or iPads, remains unparalleled in the state.

**FISCAL/PERSONNEL IMPACTS(S):**

No general fund impact. MHSA funding is appropriated to the County as a fiduciary agent of the partnership from a special income tax, subject to the submission of plans and reports. The billing code is: 01024012.

**ANALYSIS/DISCUSION:**

Funds held by the County are entirely dedicated to the regional WET Program. The partnership is governed by the Mental Health Directors of each of the member counties who meet on a near monthly basis to manage the work of the region under this project. The partnership maintains contracts with Glenn County as a fiduciary agent, and helps manage the contract between the County and CIBHS for administering the project. CIBHS holds contracts with CSU, Chico and CSU, Humboldt for the development and delivery of hybrid distance learning programs, as well as other entities that support the remaining goals of the partnership. The contract with CSU, Chico includes the provision of a regional coordinator that serves as the staff of the partnership and conducts the daily activities of the project.

The County requests on behalf of the partnership MHSA funding from the state that is specifically designated for regional WET programs. These funds are held by the County in trust and managed by the HHSA. HHSA, in turn, pays the CIBHS to manage all of the remaining contracts for the partnership and administer the ongoing activities. HHSA also accesses the trust for other authorized expenses such as local A-87 costs of administering the fund.

The funds held by the County may only be used for the purposes specified under the regulations established by the MHSA and the Department of Health Care Services or the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development. Expenditures are monitored by the State, the County, and the partnership. All interest earned must be retained for the purposes of the program and reported.

**APPROVERS:**
Contract Cover Sheet

Proposed Agreement w/ CA Institute of Behavioral Health Services