

Staff Report
Board Meeting Date: April 24, 2025

DATE: April 2, 2025

TO: District Board of Health

FROM: Kristen Palmer, Fiscal Compliance Officer
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Rayona LaVoie, Director of Programs and Projects
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SUBJECT: Approve the Agreement between Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH) and Social Entrepreneurs, Inc. (SEI) to coordinate and manage the 2025-26 Washoe Region Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) strategic framework and initiatives implementation project for a total amount of \$150,000.00 for the period April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

SUMMARY

The Washoe County District Board of Health must approve and execute Interlocal Agreements and amendments to the adopted budget. The District Health Officer is authorized to execute agreements on the Board of Health's behalf up to \$100,000 per contract; over \$100,000 would require the approval of the Board.

The purpose of the Washoe County Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) Implementation project is to prevent the criminalization of mental illness and promote collaboration between criminal justice and behavioral health systems so that fewer people with mental illness are in jail tomorrow than there are today, focusing on providing appropriate services and connections within six intercepts

District Health Strategic Priorities supported by this item:

- 1. Healthy Lives:** Improve the health of our community by empowering individuals to live healthier lives.
- 2. Healthy Environment:** Create a healthier environment that allows people to safely enjoy everything Washoe County has to offer.
- 3. Local Culture of Health:** Lead a transformation in our community's awareness, understanding, and appreciation of health resulting in direct action.
- 4. Impactful Partnerships:** Extend our impact by leveraging partnerships to make meaningful progress on health issues.

PREVIOUS ACTION

The 2022 Agreement between WCHD and SEI was presented to the board and accepted on April 28, 2022.

The 2021 Agreement between the WCHD and SEI was presented to the board and accepted on May 27, 2021.

BACKGROUND

The 2025-26 Washoe Region Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) strategic framework and initiatives implementation project builds upon the Washoe Crisis Response Implementation Plan project currently underway and incorporates key takeaways from the January 2024 Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health Summit held in Washoe County.

In 2024, SEI facilitated and coordinated the Washoe County Behavioral Health Summit aimed to improve criminal justice responses to individuals with behavioral health challenges, employing the SIM for collaborative strategy identification. Over 120 attendees participated in the Summit, representing a broad spectrum of local leaders, experts, community members, and stakeholders from various sectors who are all dedicated to enhancing responses to behavioral health challenges within the criminal justice system. Key highlights centered on prioritizing policy, practice, and data collection enhancements for effective model implementation, and emphasizing leadership, policy adjustments, and resource allocation. Data collection priorities were ranked by participants to lay the foundation for a data development agenda. The Leading Change Guide was used as a tool for convening stakeholders across systems and developing a plan to address mental health needs in a community. This resource was used to help guide planning during 2023-24, which led to the development of a strategic framework for the Washoe region.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the Board approve this Agreement, there is no additional impact to the FY 25 budget as Community Health Improvement (170203) has sufficient expenditure authority to support this request.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the Agreement between Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH) and Social Entrepreneurs, Inc. (SEI) to coordinate and manage the 2025-26 Washoe Region Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) strategic framework and initiatives implementation project for a total amount of \$150,000.00 for the period April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be "Move to approve the Agreement between Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH) and Social Entrepreneurs, Inc. (SEI) to coordinate and manage the 2025-26 Washoe Region Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) strategic framework and initiatives implementation project for a total amount of \$150,000.00 for the period April 1, 2025, through June 30, 2025."