

October 27, 2026

Board of Supervisors
County of Kern Administrative Center
1115 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

**UNUSUAL TRAVEL REQUEST FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES STAFF
DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST CHERYL ALVARADO, TO ATTEND THE APPLIED SUICIDE
INTERVENTION SKILLS TRAINING (ASIST) IN SACRAMENTO, CA.
(Fiscal Impact \$6,361; State/Federal; Budgeted)**

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) requests your Board's approval to authorize an unusual travel request for Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Staff Development Specialist Cheryl Alvarado to attend the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) in Sacramento, California from November 15, 2026, to November 20, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$6,361. There is no General Fund cost associated with this request.

The cost associated with the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) includes per person charges for registration fee \$4,100; lodging in the amount of \$1,678; per diem for meals \$348, and hotel parking with the cost of \$235. The total cost for this request is \$6,361 which exceeds the \$4,500 per employee limit. No General Fund contribution is required to cover the cost.

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) is a crucial training that The Kern BHRS Training Services provides to Kern BHRS staff, contract providers and community members upon request that teaches participants how they can provide intervention to those who are struggling with suicidal ideations or are crisis situations due to suicide. Currently, we do not have enough instructors trained in (ASIST), to meet the demands of the groups previously mentioned. To adhere to the fidelity of this curriculum, we need to acquire more instructors as two instructors are required to teach a small sized class. Additionally, up to 8 hours of preparation are required prior to each session of (ASIST) which makes it difficult to continually require the same instructors to facilitate these sessions month after month, as it pulls instructors away from their regular daily work duties.

Therefore, IT IS RECOMMENDED that your Board approve the unusual travel request for Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Staff Development Specialist Cheryl Alvarado to attend the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) in Sacramento, California from November 15, 2026, to November 20, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$6,361.

Respectfully Submitted,



Alison Burrowes, MA, LCSW
Director

cc: County Administrative Office