

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

F A C T S H E E T

**AUTHORIZATION FOR ACCEPTANCE OF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
(DOJ) GRANT PERIOD ADJUSTMENT AND APPROVAL OF
APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT FOR THE SUBJECT GRANT
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)**

REQUEST:

Authorize the Director of Mental Health or his designee to accept the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Grant Adjustment that extends the grant period of a previous Board approved \$145,864 grant from Fiscal Year (FY) 2003-2004 into FYs 2004-2005 and 2005-2006. The grant will be used to develop a Mental Health Court Transition Project.

Approve the Request for Appropriation Adjustment for FY 2004-2005 in the amount of \$122,000 to increase Salaries and Employee Benefits by \$95,000, and Services and Supplies by \$27,000, to reflect the grant in the FY 2004-2005 Department of Mental Health (DMH) budget.

BACKGROUND:

The U.S. DOJ funds projects nationwide to mobilize communities to implement innovative, collaborative efforts that bring system-wide improvements to the way the needs for adult and juvenile offenders with mental disabilities or illness are addressed.

On September 16, 2003, the Board approved the acceptance of a U. S. DOJ Grant in the amount of \$145,864 for DMH to develop a pilot Mental Health Court Transition Project for FY 2003-2004. This project supports a partnership between DMH and the Mental Health Branch of the Los Angeles Superior Court to increase the efficiency of services provisions and reduce the cost of providing services to mentally ill defendants including evaluating competency, providing treatment to stabilize defendants, and continuing community-based care in compliance with a court ordered treatment plan.

Due to issues related to hiring, both in the DMH and in the County, the initiation of the project has been delayed. To maximize revenue utilization, DMH successfully obtained from DOJ an 18 month grant period extension.

INTENT:

Your Board's authorization of the acceptance of the DOJ grant period adjustment will enable DMH to utilize the DOJ grant funding of \$145,864, originally appropriated for FY 2003-2004, to develop the Mental Health Court Transition Project in FYs 2004-2005 and 2005-2006.

Your Board's approval of the Appropriation Adjustment of \$122,000 will provide DMH with the spending authority to hire the staff to implement the project.

JUSTIFICATION:

On September 16, 2003, your Board approved the acceptance of a DOJ grant in the amount of \$145,864 to implement a Mental Health Court Transition Project during FY 2003-2004 to improve services provision. Due to hiring issues, both in the DMH and in the County, the initiation of the project has been delayed.

DMH has successfully obtained a DOJ Grant Adjustment Notice to extend the grant period to August 31, 2005. Your Board's approval of the acceptance of the extension will enable DMH to utilize the original grant fund to fund the same project in FYs 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 to achieve the objectives of improved services provision.

CONTRACTING PROCESS:

This subject does not apply.