

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

FACT SHEET

**APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO CONSULTANT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH
CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR MENTAL HEALTH
FOR FISCAL YEARS 2003-2004, 2004-2005 AND 2005-2006
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)**

REQUEST:

Approve the Amendment format and instruct the Director of Mental or his designee to prepare, sign, and execute Amendment No.1 to Contract No. DMH-01407, with California Institute for Mental Health (CIMH). The Amendment will allow CIMH to conduct 3 separate studies on supportive services to Los Angeles County's Welfare-to-Work efforts. These 3 studies will examine program results, measure performance, identify outcomes, and present recommendations.

The Amendment will increase the Maximum Contract Amount from \$20,000 to \$220,000 for each Fiscal Years 2003-2003, 2004-2005 and 2005-2006. The increase will be fully funded with budgeted California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) and General Relief Opportunities to Work (GROW) allocations. The Amendment will be effective upon Board Approval.

CONTRACTOR:

CIMH was established in 1993 to promote excellence in mental health services through training, technical assistance, research and policy development. CIMH is dedicated to a vision of a culturally competent mental health service system, within communities that sustain and support families and children, support resilience, recovery and self-determination for persons with psychiatric disabilities, and promote mental health and wellness.

CIMH is a sole source provider that was selected by DMH due to their expertise in the area of outcome measurement and program evaluation, including its recent Board-approved CalWORKs Outcome Study.

INTENT:

The Amendment will allow CIMH to conduct 3 separate studies on supportive services to Los Angeles County's Welfare-to-Work efforts. The first is an outcomes study on the Los Angeles County's CalWORKs supportive services program. The second is an evaluation study of a pilot program serving the needs of homeless CalWORKs families.

The third is a study of Los Angeles County's GROW's supportive services, i.e., mental health, substance abuse and domestic violence programs.

JUSTIFICATION:

State and local authorities, as well as consumer and advocacy groups expect DMH, to demonstrate fiscal and clinical accountability when using public funding to deliver mental health services. The collection of timely, accurate and comparable data is of growing importance with the advent of state and local initiatives that link continued funding to demonstrated benefits and outcomes. The 3 studies will provide detailed information on the Welfare-to-Work, CalWORKs and GROW programs' progress in meeting their objectives and enable DMH to develop performance plans and set specific, measurable outcomes for the programs to achieve.

Performance measures and outcomes are necessary to improve accountability and serve as a tool for continued monitoring, planning and managing the Welfare-to-Work programs. Further, the performance measures developed in these studies are necessary to enhance the quality of services, improve management practices, evaluate the projects, and aid in budget development and review. The studies will provide measures that reflect the impact of programs on the lives of CalWORKs and GROW participants and their families.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

There is no increase in net County cost. Appropriation for this amendment in the amount of \$200,00, is included in the FY 2003-2004 Adopted Budget and is funded by CalWORKs, \$150,000 and GROW, \$50,000. The annual amount of \$220,000 each for FYs 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 will also be funded by CalWORKs and GROW and will continue to be requested in DMH's annual budget process.

CONTRACTING PROCESS:

CIMH's CalWORKs Project staff is widely known and acknowledged as having expertise and experience in the evaluation and research of CalWORKs supportive services. The purpose of the CalWORKs Project is to study the implementation of CalWORKs in California counties, as it relates to the identification, referral and delivery of mental health, alcohol and other drugs, and domestic violence services to CalWORKs participants when these issues are barriers to employment for the welfare-to-work population.

CIMH's statewide collaborations and demonstrated expertise in the area of CalWORKs outcome measurement and program evaluation, including its recent Board-approved CalWORKs Outcome Study, validates the selection of CIMH as a sole source to conduct these studies on Los Angeles County's Welfare-to-Work supportive services. Therefore, DMH believes that expertise already existed when it selected CIMH for this purpose.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES:

Amending this Agreement with CIMH will enable DMH to effect program changes and initiate performance measures for the 3 programs to be studied, namely CalWORKs supportive services, CalWORKs homeless pilots, and the GROW supportive services. Service to the targeted populations will not be interrupted by the initiation of the studies.

RK:LQ:EM
CIMH FACT SHEET 12/22/03