

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

F A C T S H E E T

**APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO THE EDUCATION TUITION
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH FOUNDATION**

**(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

REQUEST:

Approval and authorization for the Director of Mental Health or his designee to prepare, sign, and execute Amendment No. 2 to the Education Tuition Assistance Program Services Agreement with the California State University, Long Beach Foundation (CSULBF) in the amount of \$134,100 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2003-2004. The Amendment increase will accommodate increased costs of tuition and stipends, staff change, unanticipated costs, and administrative costs. One-time Sales Tax Realignment funds for this increase are included in the Department of Mental Health's (DMH) FY 2003-2004 Adopted Budget. The revised total compensation for CSULB Foundation will be \$330,000 for FY 2003-2004. This Agreement terminates on June 30, 2004.

INTENT/JUSTIFICATION:

Board approval is required for an increase to the existing Education Tuition Assistance Program Services Agreement with CSULBF, the fiscal intermediary for academic training between CSULBF and DMH, in order to accommodate increased costs of tuition and stipends, staff change, unanticipated costs, and fiscal intermediary administrative costs. The Amendment increase in the amount of \$134,100 exceeds the 20 percent delegated authority language previously authorized by the Board.

The Agreement between DMH and CSULBF provides a mechanism to pay for tuition costs and stipends for students who have agreed to pursue future employment within DMH's mental health system. The participation and subsequent graduation of several students has been delayed due to class schedule changes, causing a shift of tuition and stipend costs from FY 2002-2003 to FY 2003-2004. Increased costs for staff change resulted from the reassignment of the program's only full-time DMH employee from the program, requiring that existing responsibilities for academic and fieldwork oversight be re-allocated to a part-time CSULBF contract employee. The Universities Liaison recently hired by CSULBF now handles the additional increased workload with participating local educational institutions. Unanticipated costs include one-time stipends for exceptional need, including partial reimbursement to students for self-

funded increased tuition costs, and tuition costs for required classes offered only in off-track terms and, therefore, not included in the established fee schedule.

CONTRACTOR:

CSULBF, the fiscal intermediary for academic training between CSULBF and DMH, assists DMH with the payment of tuition costs and stipends for students at various universities who have agreed to pursue future employment with DMH's mental health system. Additionally, the position of the Universities Liaison provides on-site assistance, part-time graduate course instruction, and fieldwork supervision for students at University of Southern California, California State University – Los Angeles, and California State University – Long Beach.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

There is no increase in net County cost. The \$134,100 increase is fully funded by Sales Tax Realignment funds included in DMH's FY 2003-2004 Adopted Budget. For FY 2003-2004, the revised total compensation will be \$330,000.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS:

DMH works collaboratively with local educational institutions to assist students in learning skills needed to work with the severely and persistently mentally ill population of all ages. DMH assigns students who participate in the Social Work Graduate Education Tuition Assistance Program to work within the County's contract or directly-operated mental health system on a year-to-year basis in return for tuition assistance. DMH also pays for graduate social work education tuition at selected local universities for student participants in the Social Work Graduate Education Tuition Assistance Program in exchange for working in the County's directly-operated or contract mental health programs after the completion of their master level social work education.

CONTRACTING PROCESS:

DMH currently has an Agreement with CSULBF to provide tuition assistance and stipends to graduate social work students who participate in the Education Tuition Assistance Program.

RK:KT:LJ