

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

FACT SHEET

**AUTHORIZATION FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT
COMMUNITY SERVICES AND SUPPORT PLAN
OTHER ONE-TIME FUNDING FOR AN
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECT
AND
APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006-2007
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)**

REQUEST

Authorize the acceptance of Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) other one-time funding from the California State Department of Mental Health (SDMH) for an Information Technology (IT) Project in the amount of \$885,000. This MHSA other one-time funding was awarded for Fiscal Years (FY) 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 for the purpose of providing IT Support for MHSA Program Implementation as described in the MHSA Community Services and Support (CSS) Plan.

Approve the Request for Appropriation Adjustment for Services & Supplies (S&S) in the amount of \$708,000 for FY 2006-2007 to increase the Department of Mental Health's (DMH) spending authority for the purpose of providing IT Support for MHSA Program Implementation as described in the MHSA CSS Plan.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION

On January 12, 2007, the Department received notice from the SDMH of additional one-time funding for a Systems Improvement Project under the MHSA CSS Plan. Board approval of the recommended actions will allow DMH to accept and receive additional MHSA funding from SDMH and enable DMH to provide IT Support for MHSA Program Implementation. This additional funding will provide DMH with spending authority to acquire contractor resources to identify and implement the technical changes needed to improve the delivery of services and supports described in the MHSA CSS Plan.

BACKGROUND

The MHSA CSS Plan is a conceptual framework designed to create a culturally competent mental health system, which promotes recovery and wellness for adults and older adults with severe mental illness and resiliency for children and youth with serious emotional disorders and their families. The MHSA CSS Plan was approved by SDMH and the Board of Supervisors on February 14, 2006 and May 9, 2006, respectively.

DMH is implementing the MHPA CSS Plan, developed and organized by stakeholders, to serve specific age groups and provide cross-cutting services designed to serve all age groups, as well as to provide services utilizing other one-time funds. On January 12, 2007, SDMH notified DMH of the project funding. (See Attachment II) Specifically, the MHPA other one-time funds will be used to:

- Provide support for transforming facilities and programs, which includes assisting with the establishment of new sites; deploying and configuring new hardware; and loading, configuring, maintaining and supporting this hardware on a continuing basis. Also included is first level software support for new DMH MHPA staff.
- Perform configuration and provide support for Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) and Data Integration to collect client and program outcomes information.
- Perform Business analysis and develop automated workflow applications to collect new MHPA Client and Services Information (CSI) and Data Collection and Reporting (DCR) system data elements to support federal and MHPA performance outcome reporting requirements.
- Assist in the development and maintenance of MHPA IT-related Project Management Work Plans, Project Documentation and Project Status Reports for the above-mentioned services.
- Improve the level of service provided to clients through increased help desk support for MHPA applications and technologies.

The continued distribution of MHPA CSS new funding requests for IT projects is contingent upon successful IT implementations and continued efforts to meet the minimum Electronic Health Record (EHR) and Health Information Exchange (HIE) standards that will be phased-in over several years. SDMH requires County systems to enhance their IT infrastructure and systems to adapt as the standards evolve and become nationally uniform.

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The Chief Administrative Office (CAO) and Chief Information Office (CIO) have reviewed the proposed actions and concur with the recommended actions.

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