

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

F A C T S H E E T

**AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND A FISCAL INTERMEDIARY AGREEMENT WITH
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH FOUNDATION
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-09
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Request approval to amend a fiscal intermediary agreement with California State University, Long Beach Foundation to increase funding for fiscal year 2008-09 for stipends for graduate social workers.

REQUEST

Approve and instruct the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute Amendment No. 4 to increase funding to the fiscal intermediary agreement for Academic Training and Student Professional Development Programs (Agreement) No. MH190010, with California State University, Long Beach Foundation (CSULBF), in the amount of \$918,000 for fiscal year (FY) 2008-09, effective upon Board approval through June 30, 2009, and with the option to extend funding to FY 2009-10 if funds are available. The Amendment will allow CSULBF to disburse stipends to an additional 43 students. For FY 2008-09, the Total Compensation Amount (TCA) will be \$1,118,000 fully funded by Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Community Services and Supports (CSS) Plan funds.

Delegate authority to the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute future amendments to this Agreement and establish as a new Total Compensation Amount (TCA) the aggregate of the original contract and all amendments through and including this amendment, provided that: 1) the County's total payments to the contractor under this Agreement for the applicable FY do not exceed an increase of 20 percent from the applicable revised TCA; 2) any such increase is used to provide additional services or reflect program and/or policy changes; 3) the Board of Supervisors has appropriated sufficient funds for all changes; 4) approval of County Counsel and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), or their designee, is obtained prior to any such Amendment; 5) the parties may, by written Amendment, mutually agree to reduce programs or services without reference to the 20 percent limitation; and 6) the Director of Mental Health notifies the Board of Agreement changes in writing within 30 days after execution of the Amendment.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION

Board approval authorizes an amendment to increase the TCA from \$200,000 to \$1,118,000. This amendment will allow CSULBF to increase student participation from 9 to 52 stipend students. The Statement of Work explains DMH and CSULBF responsibilities and the stipend disbursement schedule.

The Department of Mental Health (DMH) is in the process of implementing its MHSA-CSS Plan. Social work is an integral part of the plan. This amendment provides financial support to students training to become social workers and encourages them to enter the Los Angeles County mental health system. Student training will encompass the values and principles of the MHSA.

The services provided by the graduate social workers will reinforce the goals of recovery, resiliency, and wellness as guiding concepts of the MHSA. The graduate social workers will be trained in service delivery that goes beyond traditional mental health interventions to include support for all realms of a person's life: from education and employment to legal issues; from medical needs to improving family communication.

CONTRACTOR

CSULBF has served as the lead agency for the Student Professional Development Program (Program), which is comprised of graduate schools in Southern California. CSULBF serves as the fiscal intermediary for an internship stipend program designed to attract bilingual and bicultural Master of Social Work (MSW) students from throughout Los Angeles County. These students will provide services in all of the County's supervisorial districts with the goal of establishing careers working in the Los Angeles County mental health system.

The graduate schools that comprise the Program solicit students interested in participating in the program. The list of interested students is provided to the DMH Human Resource Bureau (HRB). Pre-employment processing is conducted by HRB, which entails screening students for criminal background, language capabilities, United States citizenship/permanent resident status, and interest in working in public mental health settings.

Individuals eligible for employment with DMH, or its contracted agencies, are invited to sign an agreement to apply for employment with DMH for at least one calendar year of

continuous and satisfactory employment in return for each year of stipend assistance. CSULBF will provide funds to pay tuition costs and/or stipends to part-time and full-time students who are part of the Program and attend one of the following universities: California State University, Long Beach; University of Southern California; University of California, Los Angeles; or California State University, Los Angeles.

The social work stipend program reflects DMH's immediate need to train social workers not only for its direct operated programs, but also for its contract providers. DMH and its contract providers need social workers who are culturally and linguistically competent, provide services that are sensitive and responsive to the needs of local communities, and focus on issues of ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation and religious/spiritual beliefs.

The Amendment format has been approved as to form by the County Counsel. The CEO has reviewed the proposed actions. Administrative staff of DMH will continue to administer and supervise the Agreement and ensure that the Agreement provisions and Departmental policies are being followed.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

On May 31, 2007, DMH received Board approval for a three year agreement (FYs 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10) with CSULBF with a TCA of \$200,000 for FY 2008-09.

On July 7, 2008, DMH notified the Board of its intent to enter into sole source contract amendment negotiations with CSULBF to provide additional MHSA funded stipends to students under DMH's Student Professional Development Program.

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APPROVED BY:

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