

**BOARD LETTER – SUMMARY SHEET
HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES CLUSTER**

AGENDA REVIEW	05/23/12
BOARD MEETING	06/12/12
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT	3
DEPARTMENT	Department of Mental Health (DMH)
SUBJECT	Request approval to renew seven Temporary Psychiatrist Services agreements which will enable Locum Tenens contractors to continue the provision of temporary psychiatrist services throughout Los Angeles County.
PROGRAM	Office of Medical Director
DEADLINES	FYs 2012-13 through 2016-17
COST & FUNDING	The LT contractors will be reimbursed based on contracted hourly rates established by DMH. The Agreements are funded with State and federal revenue, such as Federal Financial Participation Medi-Cal and State Mental Health Services Act, 2011 Realignment-AB 109 and Sales Tax Realignment revenues.
PURPOSE OF REQUEST	Approval will allow DMH to renew seven Temporary Psychiatrist Services agreements which will enable Locum Tenens contractors to continue the provision of temporary psychiatrist services throughout Los Angeles County.
SUMMARY/ ISSUES (Briefly summarize program and potential issues or concerns. Identify changes, if any, to level of funding or staffing; how funding will be utilized and why best use; prior accomplishments; and for BLs involving contracts, also note changes to the contract term.)	<p>Approval of the recommended action will allow continual provision of temporary psychiatrist services beyond the June 30, 2012, expiration of the current contracts. The use of these LT contractors, independently contracted psychiatrists, on an as needed basis is necessary to meet emergent or unanticipated needs when existing County employees are unavailable, cannot be transferred from other locations, or vacant positions cannot be filled timely with permanent new hires. Additionally your approval will increase the contracted rate for Spanish speaking psychiatrists by \$15.00 per hour except for sites which have not experienced difficulty placing these specially qualified temporary psychiatrists.</p> <p>Without the renewal of these temporary psychiatrist service Agreements, DMH will be unable to utilize psychiatrists for temporary work assignments. This would negatively impact access to psychiatric care for Los Angeles County residents. When the recruitment process is lengthy, the utilization of LT psychiatrists enables DMH to handle critical manpower shortages, meet emergent or unanticipated treatment needs, and continually provide high quality mental health care.</p> <p>The Agreements are funded with State and federal revenue, such as Federal Financial Participation Medi-Cal and State Mental Health Services Act, 2011 Realignment-AB 109 and Sales Tax Realignment revenues.</p>
DEPT. & COUNTY COUNSEL CONTACTS	DMH: Dr. Roderick Shaner, Medical Director (Telephone No. 213-738-4603) County Counsel: Stephanie Reagan (Telephone No. 213-974-0941)