

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**

**FACT SHEET**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR A SOLE SOURCE AMENDMENT WITH  
CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR MENTAL HEALTH  
TO DEVELOP A STATEWIDE CO-OCCURRING DISORDERS  
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER  
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)  
(3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

Request approval for a sole source amendment with the California Institute for Mental Health to develop a statewide Co-Occurring Disorders Technical Assistance Center.

**REQUEST**

1. Approve and instruct the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute a sole source amendment with the California Institute for Mental Health (CIMH) to develop a statewide Co-Occurring Disorders Technical Assistance Center (The COD Center) in the amount of \$163,500 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2009-10, fully funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Federal Block Grant, with a revised Total Compensation Amount (TCA) of \$1,327,200, effective upon Board approval.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute future amendments to the consultant Agreement with CIMH, and establish as a new TCA the aggregate of the original agreement and all amendments through and including this amendment, provided that: 1) the County's total payments to CIMH for each fiscal year does not exceed an increase of 20 percent from the applicable revised Board-approved TCA; 2) any such increase is used to provide additional services or to reflect program and/or policy changes; 3) your Board 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) County and CIMH may by written amendment reduce services or programs without reference to the 20 percent limitation and revise the applicable TCA; and 6) the Director of Mental Health notifies your Board of Agreement changes in writing within 30 days after execution of each amendment.

## **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION**

Board approval is required for this amendment as the increase exceeds the 20 percent Board delegated authority limit.

Board approval of the recommended actions will allow CIMH to develop the COD Center to provide service for individuals diagnosed with mental health and substance abuse co-occurring disorders.

The COD Center will build a statewide infrastructure, including a website, which will support California counties' mental health systems' efforts in promoting clients recovery and wellness. The website will serve as a forum to disseminate current information on COD research, treatment models, promising practices and system-wide issues. CIMH will conduct periodic meetings with individual counties/cities and providers to determine specific needs to enhance their delivery of COD services. CIMH will also provide trainings, consultation and on-going technical assistance to supervisors and direct service practitioners on applications of various integrated treatment models.

As a statewide organization, CIMH has been in the forefront of promoting comprehensive mental health services for individuals with co-occurring disorders through training, technical assistance, research, policy development, and collaboration. CIMH has the proven leadership required to develop and implement policy changes, training and technical assistance, and expert consultations as demonstrated with their involvement in the California Co-Occurring Joint Action Council (COJAC). During the current Fiscal Year, CIMH made COD information available to counties through webcasts and video conferences. Additionally, CIMH has developed products such as the COJAC screening tool to assess individuals for co-occurring disorders, the Dual Diagnosis Capability in Addiction Treatment instrument to screen the providers' ability to provide co-occurring disorder services, and a housing resource model which informs about the categories of housing which best serves different groups of COD clients. Based on its proven expertise in providing COD training and consultation, CIMH is in the unique position to develop the COD Center.

DMH has selected CIMH to undertake the development of the COD Center as the agency has the necessary organizational structure, professional personnel, technical competence, and statewide collaboration experience needed to achieve the objective set out for the COD Center.

## **BACKGROUND**

In FY 2008-09, DMH accepted the annual SAMHSA Federal Block Grant from the State Department of Mental Health (SDMH), which included a one-time allocation of \$327,000 for the development of the COD Center. In October 2008, SDMH notified DMH that funds were allocated for expenditure, and California Mental Health Directors Association (CMHDA) was then designated to develop the COD Center. It became known later that due to some internal transitioning within SDMH management that CIMH was to be the actual contractor for this project. Official notice regarding CIMH did not reach DMH in time to award the project to CIMH during FY 2008-09. The \$327,000 currently remains intact and unspent with DMH. On November 10, 2009, the State Department of Mental Health (SDMH) notified DMH that the subject allocation is available for FY 2009-10 expenditure. The Department estimates the cost for deliverables to be \$163,500 and that the deliverables can be achieved during the three months remaining in FY 2009-10 (April to June). DMH may request the authority to renew CIMH's contract during FY 2010-11 and provide additional SAMHSA funds for the project.

CIMH's statement of work for the COD Center project includes: 1) developing a website containing COD resource information and member services directory to share treatment strategies, 2) compiling and analyzing data on evidence-based and promising practices for serving people with co-occurring disorders, 3) conducting statewide regional trainings on integrated and specialized COD services, and 4) providing training and technical assistance to individual counties/cities and providers (e.g. senior management, clinic managers, clinical supervisors, and direct service practitioners). The goal is to bring recovery and wellness to COD clients by enabling and educating all levels of provider organizations, including managers/administrators, supervisors, direct service providers (e.g. alcohol/drug, mental health, co-occurring staff), consumers and family members.

## **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

DMH is requesting approval of a sole source contract amendment with CIMH, which is uniquely qualified to provide these services, specifically to develop a statewide COD Technical Assistance infrastructure and website in accordance with the Statement of Work detailed in the Deliverables.

The sole source decision is based on DMH's historical experience that CIMH has consistently provided quality SAMHSA services and is a leader in the provision of co-occurring disorders training and technical assistance. This leadership role is supported by the fact the California Mental Health Directors Association Governing Board has

chosen CIMH by consensus as best suited to create this statewide training and COD Center.

**DMH Contact:**

Cathy Warner, Deputy Director  
Adult Systems of Care  
Telephone No. (213) 738-2756  
Email: cwarner@dmh.lacounty.gov

**APPROVED BY:**

DMH Program – Cathy Warner  
DMH Contracts – Alice Wong  
Chief Executive Officer – Angela Yoon  
County Counsel – Edward Yen