

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

FACT SHEET

**AUTHORIZATION TO RENEW A SOLE SOURCE CONSULTANT SERVICES
AGREEMENT WITH CALIFORNIA MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Request approval to renew a consultant services agreement with the California Mental Health Directors Association for a three year term commencing on July 1, 2010.

REQUEST

Approve and authorize the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to prepare, sign and execute a consultant services agreement (Agreement) with the California Mental Health Directors Association (CMHDA), at an annual Total Compensation Amount (TCA) of \$280,000, effective July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011, with two automatic one-year renewal periods through Fiscal Year (FY) 2010-13.

Delegate authority to the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute future amendments to the CMHDA agreement provided that: 1) the County's total payments to contractor under the Agreement for each fiscal year do not exceed an increase of 20 percent from the applicable revised TCA; 2) any increase is used to provide additional services or to reflect program or Board 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 designees, is obtained prior to any such amendment; 5) the parties may, by written amendment, mutually agree to reduce programs or services and revise the applicable TCA without reference to the 20 percent limitation; 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 of the recommended actions will allow the Department to renew the existing consultant services agreement with CMHDA, scheduled to expire on June 30, 2010. In addition, Board approval will allow the Department to amend the agreement as the need arises. CMHDA is a non-profit advocacy association comprised of Mental Health Directors from each of the 58 counties within the State of California, as well as the city of Berkeley and the Tri-City municipal special district. Its mission is to provide leadership, advocacy, expertise, and support to California county mental health programs charged with serving individuals with serious mental illness. In collaboration

with various entities, CMHDA has made outstanding strides in their efforts to ensure social justice, wellness, resiliency, and recovery to the mental health population.

Based on its proven expertise in implementing innovative mental health therapeutic programs, CMHDA is in the unique position to assist DMH by providing consultation and technical advice to expand arts therapy programs in the juvenile halls and camps in Los Angeles County. The educational arts therapy programs have been provided in the juvenile probation halls and camps for approximately five years and are very successful.

In addition, CMHDA provides expertise in the area of public policy development, data analysis, government relations, and advocacy related to overall MHSA planning and implementation. As a statewide organization, CMHDA collaborates with State agencies, including the State Department of Mental Health, on issues of importance to county mental health agencies in California, and continues to be instrumental in helping DMH understand the complexities of MHSA planning. If this action is approved, CMHDA will continue to provide on-going support to the Department's planning efforts as well as with plan modifications or new initiatives. The members of CMHDA and the individuals employed to support the various counties will continue to be needed until the public mental health system is fully transformed under the MHSA. Based on the County's current economic situation and the possibility of a reduction in funding of mental health related programs, CMHDA will provide critical assistance to DMH in further developing transformation plans and its quality of care system within limited resources.

BACKGROUND

CMHDA provides consultation and technical assistance in the areas of advocacy and public policy development as well as implementing innovative mental health therapeutic programs. Two innovative programs in the juvenile probation halls and camps include:

The California Institute of Arts program, which provides a series of workshops including dance, music, theatre, and the visual arts led by highly qualified professional artists selected for their proven ability to work with youths in detention settings and at-risk youth in juvenile halls and camps.

The Drumming for Life program, which provides customized music instruction workshops for at-risk youth detained in the juvenile halls who are pending placement. The drumming workshops use rhythm to increase self-esteem, build community, develop trust, and release stress, in which youth learn to maintain control over anger and impulsive behavior. The Department of Justice has endorsed similar programs as part of a therapeutic treatment plan.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

California Mental Health Directors Association (CMHDA) is a unique organization; their consultants assist the Department in developing and implementing new, evidenced-based programs necessary to meet local/State/federal mandates, including U.S. Department of Justice requirements in the Probation Department's Juvenile Halls and Camps through Arts Therapy Programs.

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