

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

F A C T S H E E T

**APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH
LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
FOR FISCAL YEARS 2009-10 AND 2010-11
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 2)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Request approval of an agreement with Los Angeles Unified School District to provide coordination and consultative mental health services under the Federal Safe Schools-Healthy Students grant.

REQUEST

Approve and authorize the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to sign, and execute an Agreement with the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) in the amount of \$123,250 annually for Fiscal Years (FYs) 2009-10 and 2010-11, to provide coordination and consultative mental health services at Washington Preparatory High School.

Approve and authorize the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to fill one ordinance position at the level of Clinical Psychologist II to provide coordination and consultative mental health services, in excess of what is provided for in DMH's staffing ordinance, pursuant to Section 6.06.020 of the County Code and subject to allocation by the Chief Executive Office (CEO).

Delegate authority to the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to extend the Agreement with LAUSD for the utilization of the Federal Safe Schools-Healthy Students grant funding to continue providing access to mental health services for students should LAUSD also continue the Agreement, subject to prior review and approval by County Counsel and CEO, or their designees, and notification to your Board within 30 days after the execution of any extension.

Delegate authority to the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute amendments to the Agreement for FYs 2009-10 and 2010-11 provided that: 1) appropriate changes to the Agreement are made to improve operational efficiencies, add clarity, and/or correct errors and omissions; 2) revisions and incorporation of new provisions are consistent with the related funding agreement, such as State laws and regulations, County Ordinance, and Board policy; 3) approval of County Counsel and the CEO, or their designee, is obtained prior to any such

Amendment; and 4) the Director of Mental Health notifies your Board of Agreement changes in writing within 30 days after the execution of each Amendment.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION

Board approval of the first and second recommendations will allow DMH to be reimbursed by LAUSD for DMH's provision of a service clinical psychologist who will coordinate the navigation of mental health services. The navigator will also provide specialized services to support and assist in the effective access of evidence-based mental health practices for students meeting eligibility for such services within the Washington Preparatory High School Complex. The position is grant funded and will be budgeted and hired as a grant item accordingly.

LAUSD received the Safe Schools-Healthy Students grant from the U.S. Department of Education (DED) for four years totaling \$2,210,033 annually. LAUSD's grant from the DED was approved by LAUSD's Board on September 22, 2009. LAUSD identified Washington Preparatory High School in a portion of their grant application because, in consultation with the office of the Second Supervisorial District about community needs, LAUSD feels this site presents a good opportunity to benefit from enhanced mental health services navigation at this time.

Approval of the third and fourth recommendations will delegate authority to DMH to extend the Agreement should LAUSD continue the Agreement for two years, and make future changes to the agreement for necessary changes as requested from oversight agencies, such as LAUSD and DED, contingent upon County Counsel and CEO approval.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The proposed Agreement with LAUSD will become effective November 4, 2009 and is effective through November 3, 2011. The Agreement contains language to specifically allow LAUSD the right to examine and audit all of the books, records, documents, and other DMH evidence sufficient to properly reflect all costs claimed to have been incurred or anticipated to be incurred in performing the Agreement.

The Safe Schools-Healthy Students grant supports drug abuse and violence prevention activities among school age youth. The grant will help communities design and implement comprehensive education, mental health, social services, law enforcement, and juvenile justice services for youth to promote healthy childhood development, foster resilience, and prevent youth violence.

LAUSD will fund a full-time mental health navigator at Washington Preparatory High School, at the level of Clinical Psychologist II, to assess student needs and direct students and families to appropriate services, and to participate with LAUSD in assessing the performance of the program. The mental health navigator will provide consultation in conjunction with LAUSD, the Department of Probation and law enforcement agencies.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

LAUSD, in order to fulfill its obligations under the DED grant, desires to engage DMH to provide a mental health navigator to provide case management, assessments, and mental health consultative services at Washington Preparatory High School.

The grant was awarded to LAUSD for four years and the funding will end on June 30, 2013. The current Agreement is for two years and it is expected that the LAUSD Superintendent will renew the Agreement for two additional years.

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