

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

FACT SHEET

**APPROVAL TO RENEW SPECIALIZED AGREEMENTS
WITH ABC, LOS ANGELES, AND MONTEBELLO
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICTS
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Request approval to renew non-monetary agreements with ABC, Los Angeles, and Montebello Unified School Districts for the provision of mental health services at various schools throughout the districts.

REQUEST

Approve and authorize the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute Specialized Agreements with the ABC, Los Angeles and Montebello Unified School Districts for Fiscal Years (FYs) 2010-11 through 2014-15 for the provision of on-site mental health services to students. The Agreements, which involve no funding, will be executed upon Board approval through June 30, 2015.

Authorize the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute future new Specialized Agreements with additional school districts, and authorize the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute future amendments to these Agreements, provided that: 1) any revisions will reflect program changes including adding or deleting service sites, programs or services; 2) approval by County Counsel and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), or their designee, is obtained prior to any such new Agreements and Amendments; 3) the Director of Mental Health notifies your Board of changes in writing within 30 days after execution of each new Agreement or Amendment.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION

The recommended actions will authorize the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to continue providing mental health services at schools throughout various school districts. Through these Agreements, DMH is able to offer an alternative to clinic-based services and reach out and access children and adolescents who are in need of mental health services that would not seek services through their own initiative. DMH's involvement with schools and its capacity to serve children and families in non-traditional environments is very important, especially with the on-going development of Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) programs which emphasize field capable services and prevention and early intervention services. DMH's continued relationship with school

districts allows the Department an opportunity to provide mental health services in a non-traditional setting that is easy to access for children and families, resulting in improved outcomes.

BACKGROUND

DMH staff provides mental health services to children at various school sites throughout the ABC, Los Angeles, and Montebello Unified School Districts through a comprehensive plan designed to provide students, the schools, and their families with a network of effective service, support, and activities that help students develop the skills and emotional resilience needed to promote positive mental health. DMH employees are seasoned clinicians with an extensive knowledge of the referral and linkage process for specialized mental health services. Other school districts have expressed interest in entering into similar agreements with DMH. Delegated authority to enter into agreements with these new school districts will allow timely expansion of the DMH school program.

The Agreement format includes revised provisions and has been approved as to form by County Counsel. The CEO has reviewed the proposed actions.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

ABC, Los Angeles, and Montebello Unified School Districts have existing Specialized Agreements with DMH which will expire on June 30, 2010 and are being renewed for FYs 2010-11 through 2014-15 because of the continuing need to provide mental health services to students in these school districts.

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APPROVED BY:

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