

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

F A C T S H E E T

**APPROVAL OF A SOLE SOURCE AMENDMENT TO
THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES
AFFILIATION AGREEMENT
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Request approval of a sole source amendment to the Affiliation Agreement with The Regents of the University of California, Los Angeles, to provide consultant services for the Child System Treatment and Enhancement Project.

REQUEST

Approve and instruct the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute a sole source amendment to the current Affiliation Agreement No. MH010054 (Agreement) with The Regents of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), for consultant services pertaining to implementation of the Child System Treatment and Enhancement Project (Child STEPs), in the amount of \$216,000 per year for Fiscal Years (FYs) 2009-10 and 2010-11, with revised Total Contract Amounts (TCA) of \$3,866,803 and \$2,876,504 for FYs 2009-10 and 2010-11, respectively. The amendment will be effective upon Board approval and fully funded by \$117,000 in Katie A. Settlement funding and \$99,000 in Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Workforce, Education and Training (WET) Regional Partnership funding.

Delegate authority to the Director of Mental Health, to prepare, sign, and execute future amendments to the Agreement 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 under this Agreement for the applicable fiscal years do 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 changes; 3) your Board has appropriated sufficient funds for all increases; 4) approval of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and County Counsel, or their designees, is obtained prior to any such amendment; 5) the parties may, by written amendment, mutually agree to reduce programs or services without reference to the 20 percent limitation; and 6) the Director of Mental Health provides written notification to your Board within 30 days after the execution of each amendment.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION

Approval of the first recommended action will allow DMH to amend the agreement with the Regents of UCLA to implement the Child STEPS program, including training and evaluation, designed to improve the quality of mental health services provided to children in the County's child welfare system. The second recommended action will allow DMH to amend the agreement as necessary, subject to the conditions specified.

In 2002, a class action lawsuit (Katie A.) was filed against the State of California and Los Angeles County alleging that children in contact with the County's child welfare system were not receiving the mental health services to which they were entitled. In July 2003, the County entered into a settlement agreement resolving the County's portion of the lawsuit. Under the terms of the settlement agreement, the County is obligated to make a number of systemic improvements in service delivery to better serve children with mental health needs.

Child STEPs represents a partnership between UCLA, DMH, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), and the MacArthur Foundation to provide training in, and evaluate the effectiveness of, evidence-based mental health practices for children served by the County's child welfare system, consistent with the terms of the Katie A. settlement agreement. Because of this partnership, as well as \$250,000 in annual funding awarded by the MacArthur Foundation to UCLA for the project, DMH receives the full benefit of this program at a reduced cost. The Child STEPs Project will provide training for clinicians in a set of practices drawn from a variety of evidence-based treatments as well as ongoing consultation and supervision to support practice fidelity. Client services and outcomes will be guided and evaluated using an electronic database. The Project will provide information that will assist in the promotion of evidence-based practices within the public mental health system.

BACKGROUND

The Child Focus on Innovation and Redesign in Systems and Treatments (FIRST) Laboratory at UCLA is directed by Bruce F. Chorpita, Ph.D., who has extensive experience investigating and implementing large system reform efforts in children's mental health care. Dr. Chorpita's program at UCLA is uniquely qualified to perform the Child STEPs Los Angeles County Project, given that the project proposes to implement a multi-problem focused evidence-based protocol for children and youth in the child welfare system. Dr. Chorpita along with his colleague at Harvard University-John R. Weisz, Ph.D., have developed the only multi-problem focused clinical protocol of its kind in the children's public mental health system. The protocol delivery system was developed and is managed by Dr. Chorpita and colleagues, and they are therefore uniquely qualified to provide the training and consultation for the County.

The amendment has been approved as to form by County Counsel. The CEO has reviewed the proposed actions. Administrative staff of DMH will continue to administer and supervise the agreement and ensure that the agreement provisions and Departmental policies are followed. The policies and procedures for the human subjects review board for both DMH and DCFS will be followed.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

This is a sole source amendment to The Regents of UCLA Affiliation Agreement. The sole source selection is based on the contractor's unique qualifications as the only bona fide source for provision of these specific consulting services. The online protocol delivery system was developed and is managed by Dr. Chorpita and his colleagues working in the Child FIRST Laboratory at UCLA, and they are therefore in a unique position to provide training and consultation on this approach.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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APPROVED BY:

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