

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

**F A C T   S H E E T**

**REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO RENEW FOUR OUT-OF-STATE CHILD  
PLACEMENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AGREEMENTS FOR FISCAL YEARS  
2008-09, 2009-10 AND 2010-11  
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)  
(3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

Request to renew four Out-of-State Child Placement Mental Health Services Agreements (Agreements) that will expire on June 30, 2008 for three Fiscal Years 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11. The renewal of these agreements will allow the Department of Mental Health to continue to provide uninterrupted services to mentally ill clients residing in the County of Los Angeles who are placed in out-of-state residential programs.

**REQUEST**

1. Approve and authorize the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to prepare, sign, execute, and renew four Agreements with Aspen Solutions, Inc., Cinnamon Hills Youth Crisis Center, Inc., Sonia Shankman Orthogenic School/University of Chicago, and Utah Youth Village (Alpine Academy), for Fiscal Years (FYs) 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11.
2. Authorize the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute future new agreements with other qualified and licensed Out-of-State Child Placement providers.
3. Authorize the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute future amendments to an Agreement, provided that: 1) the County's revised daily rate for each applicable fiscal year shall not increase by twenty percent from the applicable revised daily rate; 2) any such increase shall be used to reflect program and/or policy changes; 3) the Board of Supervisors 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 amendments; 5) the parties may, by written Amendment, mutually agree to reduce programs or services without reference to the twenty percent limitation; and 6) the Director of Mental Health shall notify the CEO's office of agreement changes after execution of such amendments.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION**

Board approval to renew is required because these four Agreements will expire on June 30, 2008.

Approval of the recommended actions ensures that services will continue without interruption to severely and persistently mentally ill (SPMI) adults and seriously emotionally disturbed (SED) children, adolescents, and their families; provide support and technical services to allow Department of Mental Health (DMH) and its providers to continue to deliver mental health services to residents in the County of Los Angeles.

Additionally, new and revised contract provisions mandated for Local Small Business Enterprise Preference Program will ensure uniformity of all terms and conditions.

### **BACKGROUND**

The following Agreements being renewed include:

- a. Aspen Solutions, Inc.
- b. Cinnamon Hills Youth Crisis Center, Inc.
- c. Sonia Shankman Orthogenic School/University of Chicago
- d. Utah Youth Village (Alpine Academy)

The renewal of these Agreements will allow DMH to continue to provide uninterrupted services in the existing agreements.

The renewal of these four Agreements will provide an array of mental health treatment services to SED children, adolescents, and their families who are residents of the County of Los Angeles and are placed in out-of-state education and mental health treatment facilities. Placements are based on a referral from the local school district because these SED children and adolescents have either failed in multiple local residential programs or have been refused admission by a multitude of mental health programs in California.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

The County currently has existing Agreements with each of the four Contractors that will expire on June 30, 2008 and are being renewed because of the continuing need for their specialized services for Los Angeles County residents.

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