

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

F A C T S H E E T

**REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO RENEW A CONSULTANT SERVICES
AGREEMENT WITH MULTISYSTEMIC THERAPY SERVICES, INC. FOR FISCAL
YEARS 2008-09, 2009-10 AND 2010-11
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Request to renew a Consultant Services Agreement with Multisystemic Therapy Services, Inc. that will expire on June 30, 2008 for three Fiscal Years 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11. The renewal of this Agreement will allow the Department of Mental Health to continue to provide a patented therapeutic approach to treatment and provide training, consultation, and licensure for mental health staff.

REQUEST

1. Approve and authorize the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to prepare, sign, execute, and renew a Consultant Services Agreement, as listed in Attachment A, with Multisystemic Therapy Services, Inc., (MTS) using an Agreement format substantially similar to Attachment A-1 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 amendments to this Agreement, provided that: 1) the County's total payments to the contractor under the Agreement for the applicable fiscal year shall not exceed an increase of twenty percent from the total compensation amount; 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 is required because this Consultant Services Agreement 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 the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and its providers to continue to deliver mental health services to clients residing in the County of Los Angeles.

BACKGROUND

The renewal of this Agreement will allow DMH to continue to provide uninterrupted services in all Supervisorial Districts in the County. MTS will assist DMH by providing a patented therapeutic approach to treatment, and provide training, consultation, and licensure for mental health staff practicing the evidence-based MST treatment intervention model. MST is an evidence-based treatment model, meeting the mental health needs of families and their children and adolescents involved with the juvenile justice system who present serious antisocial behavior. The MST model is currently being used in over thirty states and has been demonstrated to reduce rates of criminal activity, institutionalization, and drug abuse. MTS has proven to be an effective contractor whose interventions are effective with high risk offenders and the cost is not significant relative to the cost of repeated incarcerations of high risk offenders.

The Agreement formats have been approved as to form by County Counsel. DMH clinical and administrative staff will also continue to administer and supervise the Agreement, evaluate programs to ensure that quality services are being provided to clients, and ensure that Agreement provisions and Departmental policies are being followed.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

In 2001, the Probation Department and its Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council identified Schiff-Cardenas funding for DMH establish and implement MST in Los Angeles County as a clinical model to address the needs of families and their juvenile justice involved youth.

DMH's contract providers serving families and youth in each of the Supervisorial Districts were solicited through a Request for Information (RFI) process to implement the MST model. Based on the results of the RFI process, four agencies were selected and they collectively receive \$350,000 in Schiff-Cardenas funds. The remaining \$106,000 is used to purchase the MST model services.

The County currently has an existing Agreement that will expire on June 30, 2008, and is being renewed because of the continuing need for its unique and specialized services for Los Angeles County residents.

DMH Contact

Sandra Thomas, Deputy Director
Transition Age Youth and Juvenile Justice
Telephone Number: (213) 738-4644
E-mail: SThomas@dmh.lacounty.gov