

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

**F A C T   S H E E T**

**APPROVAL TO ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD FROM THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND  
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION  
AND  
APPROVAL OF AN APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010-11  
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)  
(4 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

Request approval to accept a six-year grant award from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to implement a Child Mental Health Initiative entitled Project ABC Family Wellness Network to serve children birth to five-year-olds and approval of an appropriation adjustment.

**REQUEST**

1. Approve and authorize the acceptance of a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant award, a copy of which is attached as Attachment I, of up to \$9,000,000, over a six-year period commencing on September 30, 2010 and ending on September 29, 2016, to implement a Child Mental Health Initiative entitled Project ABC Family Wellness Network (Project ABC FWN). The Year One award is \$1,000,000. Future awards are subject to availability of federal funds, and satisfactory progress of the project.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to accept additional funding awards under the same SAMHSA grant in subsequent years, provided that the in-kind match requirements can continue to be met for the provision of mental health services to young children ages birth to five years, and their families. Appropriate advance notification of acceptance of such future SAMHSA funding awards, including DMH's report on its ongoing plan to meet the match requirements for the grant award, will be provided to your Board and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO).
3. Authorize DMH to fill two full-time equivalent (FTE) ordinance positions as detailed in Attachment II, pursuant to Section 6.06.020 of the County Code and subject to allocation by the CEO. The positions will be funded through the federal SAMHSA grant award.
4. Approve and authorize the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute retroactive sole source amendments, effective September 30, 2010, substantially similar to Attachment III, to three existing DMH Legal Entity

- (LE) Agreements with Children's Institute, Inc. (CII), For the Child, Inc. (FTC), and Pacific Asian Counseling Services (PACS), for FY 2010-11. These amendments, funded by the Project ABC FWN grant, will increase the Maximum Contract Amounts (MCA) of these three LE Agreements, as follows: 1) \$427,509 for CII, with a revised MCA of \$20,567,177; 2) \$66,955 for FTC, with a revised MCA of \$1,626,705; and 3) \$76,744 for PACS, with a revised MCA of \$2,541,096.
5. Delegate authority to the Director, or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute future Amendments to these LE Agreements and establish as a new MCA, the aggregate of the original Agreement and all Amendments through and including these Amendments, provided that: 1) the County's total payments to each contract provider for each fiscal year will not exceed an increase of 20 percent from the last Board approved MCA; 2) any such increase will be used to provide additional services or to reflect program and/or policy changes; 3) your Board has appropriated sufficient funds for all changes; 4) approval of County Counsel, or designee, is obtained prior to any such Amendment; 5) County and contract providers may, by written Amendment, reduce programs or services without reference to the 20 percent limitation and revise the applicable MCA; and 6) the Director notifies your Board and the CEO of Agreement changes in writing within 30 days after execution of each Amendment.
  6. Approve an appropriation adjustment (Attachment IV) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2010-11 in the amount of \$674,000 consisting of \$59,000 for Salaries and Employee Benefits (S&EB), and \$615,000 in Services and Supplies (S&S) to provide spending authority for the implementation of Project ABC FWN, fully funded by the federal SAMHSA grant award.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION**

Board approval of the recommended actions will allow DMH to accept a federal SAMHSA grant award totaling \$9,000,000 over a six-year period and, consequently, increase DMH's spending authority by \$674,000 for FY 2010-11 to implement Year One of the Project ABC FWN program.

On August 30, 2010, the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, notified DMH of the SAMHSA grant award as the outcome of a competitive application solicitation process. This SAMHSA award is retroactive to September 30, 2010. The Board actions are consistent with your Board's policy on timely submission for Board approval, as noted in the Chief Administrative Office's memo dated September 7, 2000, to your Board, under paragraph heading Overall Policies, Circumstances No. 2, "The County is receiving funds (normally from a higher level of government)."

No services have been delivered at this point in time. It is DMH's intent, with your Board's approval, to make the amendments for CII, FTC, and PACS effective September 30, 2010, consistent with the effective date of the SAMHSA grant award, in order to enable the contractors to claim costs involved for the planning process.

## **BACKGROUND**

On August 30, 2010, the DMH received notification from the Department of Health and Human Services of the SAMHSA grant Project ABC FWN Year One award of \$1,000,000. This award is renewable for up to five years and is subject to the availability of federal funds, as well as the satisfactory progress of the program. Proposed funding for Year One through Year Six is \$1,000,000, \$1,500,000, \$2,000,000, \$2,000,000, \$1,500,000 and \$1,000,000, respectively. The required Grant Management Statement is attached (Attachment V) for your reference.

DMH, in collaboration with DCFS, CII, FTC, and PACS, will provide comprehensive, family-centered, culturally-competent mental health services to young children ages birth to five years who are either involved with, or at risk of entry into, the child welfare system, who have a serious emotional or behavioral problem, and who reside in Service Planning Area (SPA) 8. SPA 8 was specifically chosen for this program due to the high concentration of children ages birth to five years who require mental health intervention and services.

This program represents an innovative and important step in addressing the significant lack of expertise among mental health clinicians with regard to the mental health assessment and treatment of children ages birth to five years. In order to improve access to services, reduce stigma associated with emotional and behavioral problems in children, develop evidence-based treatments and translate research findings into community practice, identification and treatment of these problems in very young children must occur and barriers must be reduced. These challenges will be addressed by this program and replication of the successes will be promoted in other SPAs through training and technical assistance provided by program staff and through other resources, including the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA). Approximately 500 young children and families residing in SPA 8 will be enrolled during the six-year period of the grant, which represents a 73 percent increase in the number of birth to five-year-old children served.

The goals of this project align fiscally and philosophically with SAMHSA priorities, the California statewide child welfare improvement effort, and the goals of Los Angeles County to establish new mental health prevention and early intervention services. This program has the potential to efficiently coordinate funding streams in order to sustain this service network beyond the six-year term of the SAMHSA grant award.

This project, by statutory mandate, requires an increasing ratio of non-federal matching dollars to federal dollars in the amount of \$8,578,792 during the term of this grant. All of the involved mental health agencies, DMH, CII, FTC, and PACS, as well as, DCFS and other SPA 8 providers, will provide in-kind matching funds throughout the six-year period of the grant. In-kind matching resources for FY 2010-11 and FY 2011-12 primarily consist of identified salary and consultant costs related to the coordination, planning, and implementation of this program. Increasing in-kind matching resources for the remaining fiscal years will include identified salary and consultant costs, as well as, potential State and local funds that support a variety of services offered by this program, including, but not limited to, substance abuse treatment, special education services, State-funded child care, Partnerships for Families services, Healthy Families services, MHSA-funded Children's Full Service Partnerships, DCFS Alternative Response services, health services, and Regional Center (for developmentally disabled children) services.

The acceptance of this grant will not obligate DMH to continue this program if the existing in-kind match requirements cannot be met. In this event, DMH could scale down the program to a level that would ensure that it could still continue to meet the corresponding in-kind match requirements.

The amendment format for contract amendments with CII, FTC, and PACS has been reviewed and approved by County Counsel as to form.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

To comply with your Board's contracting policy requirements for sole source contracts, DMH notified your Board on January 13, 2011, (Attachment VI) of its intent to negotiate sole source contract amendments with CII, FTC, and PACS for the new SAMHSA grant-funded program. In addition, attached is the required Sole Source Contract Checklist (Attachment VII), identifying and justifying the need for a sole source contract amendment that has been approved by the CEO

Subsequent to Board approval of these actions, DMH, in collaboration with CII, FTC, and PACS, will develop and coordinate the delivery of comprehensive, family-centered, and culturally-competent mental health services specifically targeted to young children ages birth to five years, and their families. These agencies have a history of extensive service provision to culturally-diverse populations, particularly monolingual communities, in SPA 8.

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