

**BOARD LETTER – SUMMARY SHEET
HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES CLUSTER**

AGENDA REVIEW	07/25/12
BOARD MEETING	08/07/12
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT	All
DEPARTMENT	Mental Health
SUBJECT	Request approval to expend funds to host and conduct the American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) Mental Health Conference: Weaving Wellness Into Our Spirits to be held on November 6, 2012, at the California Endowment Center, and similar conferences for the next two fiscal years.
PROGRAM	In support of the mental health system in Los Angeles County, the conference will host workshops that are aligned with the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) plans and the DMH's goals of promoting hope, wellness and recovery.
DEADLINES	None
COST & FUNDING	The FY 2012 DMH Adopted Budget includes sufficient appropriation to fund the estimated total cost of \$23,000 for the conference. The final cost will be determined by the actual number of attendees, which is expected to range up to 300 attendees. Funding for future years costs will be requested through DMH's annual budget process. There is no net County cost impact associated with these actions
PURPOSE OF REQUEST	Approval of the recommended actions will allow DMH to host and conduct the AI/ANs Mental Health Conference: Weaving Wellness Into Our Spirits to be held on November 6, 2012, at the California Endowment Center.
SUMMARY/ ISSUES (Briefly summarize program and potential issues or concerns. Identify changes, if any, to level of funding or staffing; how funding will be utilized and why best use; and prior accomplishments.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conference will assist the Department to accomplish elements of its State-approved MHSA plans. A major mandate of the MHSA is to reach unserved and underserved populations to support their recovery from mental illness. • This conference will raise awareness of how culturally competent interventions and providers are vital for prevention, early intervention and recovery for the AI/AN community. • DMH has not sponsored an AI/ANs Mental Health Conference since 2005. There has been resurgence in the demand for this conference by consumers and providers alike. • This conference also provides an important opportunity to develop critical partnerships between non-traditional providers and mental health professionals who work with this underserved and unserved community. • This conference will also encourage collaboration between providers, consumers and families in order to battle stigma and reduce disparities for AI/AN consumers.
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