Health Services
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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To ensure access to high-quality, patient-centered, cost-effective health care to Los AngelesCounty residents through direct services at DHS facilities and through collaboration with community and university partners.

March 8, 2011

TO: Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe

FROM: Mitchell H. Katz, M.D.
Director

SUBJECT: **RECOMMENDATION FOR DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH THE WORKER EDUCATION AND RESOURCE CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A PILOT CURRICULUM FOR MENTAL HEALTH OUTREACH WORKERS IN THE INTEGRATED PATIENT-CENTERED MEDICAL HOMES AS REQUIRED FOR THE CALIFORNIA 1115 WAIVER**
(Board Agenda Item A-4, March 8, 2011)

On November 2, 2010, California Department of Health Services (CDHS) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) entered into a new 1115 Waiver, commonly known as the *California Bridge to Reform*, for a five year period, commencing November 1, 2010. This Waiver provides the framework to federal Health Care Reform in 2014 for Medicaid Coverage Expansion (MCE) enrollees who are adults, aged 19-64, with incomes at or below 133% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and who meet citizenship or legal residence requirements. The Waiver will provide health care coverage expansion, continued partial funding of public hospitals' uncompensated costs, new funding for delivery system improvements at public hospitals, Medi-Cal Managed Care for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities, and federal matching funds for various State-only funded programs.

On December 14, 2010, your Board authorized the Department of Health Services (DHS) to submit action items related to the 1115 Waiver to your Board on a standing agenda item designated as A-4. This report provides information on a collaboration between the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and the Worker Education and Resource Center (WERC) to create a pilot curriculum for community

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health outreach workers in support of the 1115 Waiver terms and conditions. In addition, I am requesting your Board's approval of delegated authority to amend the current WERC Agreement for the curriculum development.

BEHAVIORAL/MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH SERVICES INTEGRATION

A key component of the 1115 Waiver is reforming the health care delivery system, focusing on innovation and redesign to expand primary care and medical homes. Infrastructure development, including workforce development, is necessary to increase the primary care capacity to serve the MCE enrollees. One innovation in the Patient-Centered Medical Home model is to integrate behavioral/mental and physical health services. To support this goal, WERC has developed a Community Health Outreach Worker (CHOW) course using the Promotora model to conduct outreach and patient education services in an ambulatory care setting. The Promotora model of community outreach is based on peer education and uses a variety of methods to make contact with community members and disseminate information.

DMH has identified funding to contract with WERC to revise the current CHOW curriculum and conduct a pilot session.There is a current Board approved agreement with WERC that is administered by the Department of Health Services (DHS) and amending that agreement will enable the DMH project to be completed in a timely fashion.

Under the proposed agreement amendment, WERC will develop an integrated CHOW curriculum with the support of subject matter experts in the Promotora model, and with mental health expertise. The final curriculum will include learning objectives, syllabus, lesson plans, and instructional materials. Components of the curriculum will be pilot tested and evaluated for final revision prior to expiration of the WERC agreement on June 30, 2011. DMH will utilize State Mental Health Services Act revenue in the amount of $184,867 to fund this project. WERC has presented a specific proposal and budget to DMH that details the services to be covered with the funding. There is no increase in net County cost.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that your Board delegate authority to the Director of Health Services, or his designee, to:

Execute Amendment No. 10 to Agreement No. H-207566 with WERC, effective upon execution to increase the maximum obligation by $184,867 and amend the statement of work to include development of the integrated CHOW curriculum for DMH.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or your staff may contact John Schunhoff, Ph.D., Chief Deputy Director, at (213) 240-8370.

MHK:JFS:kkh

c: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Director, Department of Mental Health