Health Services
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Los Angeles County
Board of Supervisors

Gloria Molina
First District

Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District

Zev Yaroslavsky
Third District

Don Knabe
Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District

Mitchell H. Katz, M.D.
Director

Hal F. Yee, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.
Chief Medical Officer

John F. Schunhoff, Ph.D.
Chief Deputy Director

313 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 912
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Tel: (213)240-8101
Fax: (213) 481-0503

www.dhs.lacounty.gov

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

www.dhs.lacounty.gov

November 29, 2011

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

FROM: for 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 TRAINING OF HEALTH OUTREACH WORKERS FOR THE INTEGRATED PATIENT-CENTERED MEDICAL HOMES, AS REQUIRED FOR THE CALIFORNIA 1115 WAIVER (Board agenda Item A-4, November 29, 2011)**

On November 2, 2010, the 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 an ongoing collaboration between the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and the Worker Education and Resource Center (WERC) to implement a pilot curriculum to educate Community Health Outreach Workers (CHOWs) about mental health and physical health issues in support of the 1115 Waiver terms and conditions. I am requesting your Board's approval of delegated authority to amend the current WERC agreement for the curriculum implementation and training.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS

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. This includes infrastructure development, including workforce development, to increase the primary care capacity to serve the newly covered patient population. One innovation in the Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) model is to integrate behavioral/mental and physical health services.

For many years, DHS has had an agreement with WERC for healthcare workforce training, in conjunction with SEIU Local 721. On March 8, 2011, your Board approved an amendment to the agreement with WERC, with funding from DMH, to support the revision of an existing CHOW course to prepare promotoras to conduct integrated outreach and patient education services, in the ambulatory care setting, including DMH clinics. The curriculum was revised and pilot-tested.

FISCAL IMPACT

DMH has identified additional funding in the amount of $180,550, for WERC to make some revisions to the curriculum, as determined during the pilot-testing and then implement the revised training program for a total of 30 DMH Peer Advocates and Community Workers to prepare them to function in DMH clinics. The source of funding is the "Individuals in Primary Care Settings" project of the Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) category. The training will be completed by June 30, 2012.

RECOMMENDATION

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

Execute Amendment 10.1 to Agreement No. H-207566 with WERC, effective upon execution, to increase the maximum obligation by $180,550 and amend the statement of work to include implementation of the integrated CHOW curriculum for DMH, subject to review and approval by the Chief Executive Office and County Counsel.

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

MHK:JFS:jp

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