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DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

http://dmh.lacounty.gov

September 19, 2012

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

FROM: Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.
Director

SUBJECT: **THE MHSA PRUDENT RESERVE PLAN AND THE SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET**

On October 2, 2012, your Board will review the Supplemental Budget for the County of Los Angeles. Included in the Supplemental Budget are allocations for enhanced Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) programs that, if approved by your Board, will be funded by a withdrawal from the MHSA Prudent Reserve. We want to ensure that you are fully informed regarding the components of this funding and the needs it is intended to address. This memorandum will provide you with background information and will highlight the specific services that will be enhanced through this Prudent Reserve withdrawal. The attachment to this memorandum provides additional detail.

Background:

During Fiscal Year 2011-12, your Board instructed the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to collaborate with the Department of Health Services on strategies to decompress the crowded Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES) in Los Angeles County. A comprehensive PES Decompression Plan was developed and forwarded to you in December 2011. The Plan included a set of recommended strategies such as process changes requiring no additional funding and structural alternatives that necessitated identification of a funding source. DMH reviewed the structural recommendations and determined that several components were potentially eligible for MHSA Community Services and Supports (CSS) funding as they represented an expansion of programs already contained in the approved MHSA CSS Plan. Concurrently, through its stakeholder process, Service Area Advisory Council input, and discussions with other County departments, DMH became aware that additional urgent mental health needs were unaddressed in Los Angeles County. However, at the present time, all ongoing MHSA CSS funding has been fully allocated. In fact, during Fiscal Year 2011-12 annual CSS revenues for Los Angeles County decreased from its high of $255 million in Fiscal Year 2009-10 to a low of $210 million. Therefore, a plan was developed and vetted with stakeholders for the withdrawal of $30 million from the MHSA Prudent Reserve for the package of services described below. The withdrawal of funds is intended to be used over Fiscal Years 2012-13 and 2013-14 until such time as revenues are projected to meet and exceed the level for the CSS component of MHSA in Fiscal Year 2009-10 when annual funding reached $255 million.

On June 28, 2012, the Mental Health Commission approved the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) MHSA Annual Update, as required by statute. Included in the approved plan was the withdrawal of $30 million from the MHSA Prudent Reserve. Through the Supplemental Budget, LACDMH will seek Board authorization to expend this funding beginning in this fiscal year.

Components of the Expenditure Plan for the Prudent Reserve ($30 million for 2 years)

If approved, the following MHSA CSS programs will be expanded:

For Children: Contracted Field Capable Clinical Services (FCCS) for children and youth in specialized foster care will be expanded. DMH estimates that approximately 627 additional children and youth will be served in community locations such as foster homes and schools.

For Transition Age Youth (TAY): A broad package of services will be enhanced. More specifically, the following will be implemented if approved:

- 38 additional Full Service Partnership (FSP) slots will be added. 30 of these slots will be dedicated to youth exiting Probation camps; services will be delivered by a directly operated program in SPA 6. Eight additional FSP slots will be allocated to a contract provider in SPA 5.
- FCCS for youth exiting probation camps will be expanded in SPA 6; 60 additional youth will receive these services each year.
- The TAY Emergency Shelter Bed program will be expanded so that 3,529 additional shelter bed nights per year are available to homeless youth throughout Los Angeles County.
- One additional Drop-in Center will be added to the two currently funded through MHSA; 250 youth with mental illness will have access to the facility which will include weekend and evening hours.
- A TAY systems navigator will be hired to assist staff of the Department of Children and Family Services and the Department of Probation with linking youth to mental health services.

For Adults: The significant increase in clients requiring FCCS and Wellness Centers will be addressed by funding additional positions in directly operated LACDMH clinics. 94 new clients will be seen through FCCS programs and 1,255 clients will be accommodated in Wellness Centers. In addition, the Department's School Threat Assessment Resource Team will be expanded to enable DMH to address the increasing need to respond to threats of campus violence.

For Older Adults: Approximately 300 older adult clients are currently served in Wellness Centers designed initially to address the needs of adults. Additional funding will enable the addition of staff that can provide specialized older adult mental health assessments, psychosocial groups focused on issues of aging, and case management to ensure access to specialized housing options and entitlements such as Medicare. Additional staff will deliver FCCS to the rapidly growing older adult population that is unable or unwilling to access traditional clinic-based mental health services.

Cross-Cutting: Alternative Crisis Services: As part of the PES Decompression Plan, LACDMH will establish one additional mental health Urgent Care Center for the campus of the new MLK University Hospital; this facility, when opened, is expected to serve approximately 11,000 individuals each year. Intensive residential programs (IMD Step-Down Programs) will be expanded in order to serve 126 clients who require this level of service each year.

Access Center and Administration: As the mental health delivery system has expanded, the ACCESS Center, DMH's 24-hour crisis intervention and referral line, has encountered increasing call volume. ACCESS Center staff will be enhanced to ensure DMH responds appropriately and timely to requests for help. Additional administrative positions are included to address overall demands related to the increase in MHSA programs.

I hope this information has been helpful to you. Should you have questions or desire additional information your staff may contact Robin Kay, Ph.D., Chief Deputy Director, at (213) 738-4108.

MJS:RK

Attachment

c: William T Fujioka
Sheila Shima

County of Los Angles - Department of Mental Health
Exhibit F-Prudent Reserve

Age Group	Program	Original Amount in Document - Expansion Dollar Amount	FY 2012-13 Supplemental Request		
			MHSA Amount	Gross Dollar Amount	FTE
Child	Field Capable Clinical Services (FCCS)	$ 2,039,954	$ 2,039,954	$ 4,079,908	0.0
	Infrastructure	109,880	109,880	109,880	1.0
Sub Total - Child		2,149,834	2,149,834	4,189,788	1.0
Transitional Age Youth (TAY)	FSP	800,000	792,266	1,102,358	10.0
	Emergency Shelter Bed	300,000	300,000	300,000	0.0
	Drop-In Center	250,000	250,000	250,000	0.0
	FCCS	250,000	391,490	586,139	6.0
	Infrastructure	410,000	324,253	324,253	4.0
	TAY Navigator	100,000	113,880	113,880	1.0
Sub Total - TAY		2,110,000	2,171,889	2,676,630	21.0
Adult	FCCS	189,000	430,711	574,280	5.0
	Wellness Center	1,861,000	1,051,304	1,387,274	16.0
Sub Total - Adult		2,050,000	1,482,015	1,961,554	21.0
Older Adult	FSP	587,000	585,000	900,000	0.0
	FCCS	549,075	556,466	794,952	5.0
	Wellness Center				2.0
Sub Total -Older Adult		1,136,075	1,141,466	1,694,952	7.0
Cross Cutting **	Alternative Crisis Services (Urgent Care Centers, IMD Step Down Services)	6,000,000	3,902,073	3,902,073	5.0
Sub Total -Cross Cutting		6,000,000	3,902,073	3,902,073	5.0
Administration	Access - SA Navigators for Call Center	1,250,000	760,078	780,078	10.0
	Infrastructure		519,830	519,830	6.0
Sub Total-Admn		1,250,000	1,279,908	1,299,908	16.0
Grand Total		14,695,909	12,127,185	15,724,905	71.0

Note:** The remaining balance $2 M will be used in FY 2013-14.