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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

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September 11, 2007

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH: APPROVAL FOR HIRING AND SPENDING AUTHORITY TO FURTHER IMPLEMENT THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT-COMMUNITY SERVICES AND SUPPORTS PLAN FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES TO YOUTH IN PROBATION CAMPS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007-08 (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Authorize the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to implement expanded mental health services for Seriously Emotionally Disturbed (SED) Transition Age Youth (TAY), ages 16 to 20, residing in the Los Angeles County Juvenile Justice Probation Camps, consistent with the Department's Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Community Services and Supports (CSS) Plan, effective upon Board approval, at an estimated cost of $2,489,000 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2007-08 (Attachment I), fully funded by MHSA CSS ongoing funding.

2. Authorize DMH to fill 26 ordinance positions/26 Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs) as detailed on Attachment II in excess of what is provided for in DMH's staffing ordinance, pursuant to Section 6.06.020 of the County Code and subject to allocation by the Chief Executive Office (CEO).

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Board approval of the recommended actions will enable DMH to further develop and expand the current level of mental health services available to SED youth residing in the Probation Camps. Approximately 40 percent of the 5,000 youths sentenced to the County's 18 Probation Camps each year have serious mental health problems. The Department currently provides mental health services at nine of the camps. The proposed program will significantly expand the mental health service delivery capacity at these nine camps in alignment with the Probation Department's Camp Redesign by locating staff on site at all nine camps and increasing the number of staff assigned to this program. The Camp Redesign aims to achieve positive behavioral change in youth in the camps through evidence-based practices. It also aims to prepare these youth for successful reintegration into the community.

Multi-disciplinary teams of DMH and Probation staff, along with parents, parent/peer advocates, substance abuse counselors and TAY MHSA system navigators, will develop an individualized integrated case plan based on the unique needs of each youth with an emphasis on community reintegration upon release. Intervention practices will be evidence-based and/or excellence-based with proven and/or promising outcomes. Parent/family support services will include outreach and engagement, family therapy, educational information regarding mental illness and co-occurring disorders, and transportation assistance to promote family participation in the youth's treatment during the period of camp placement through his or her transition back into the community. It is anticipated that many of these youth will be enrolled, concurrently upon release from camp, in a MHSA Full-Service Partnership (FSP) program where their intensive mental health service needs will continue to be addressed.

As noted in the CSS Plan, the goal of expanded services in the Probation Camps is critical to assisting TAY with mental health and co-occurring substance abuse disorders to reach their maximum potential, and avoid deepening their entanglement and entry into the adult criminal justice system. In addition to furthering the goals of MHSA, the recommended actions are intended to fill a longstanding gap in access to mental health services in the Probation Camps.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended Board actions are consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan Goal No. 1, "Service Excellence," Goal No. 3, "Organizational Effectiveness," Goal No. 5 "Children and Families' Well-Being," and Goal No. 7, "Health and Mental Health." The Probation Camp Mental Health Services Program is expected

to improve delivery, efficiency, and effectiveness of mental health services for youth residing in the Probation camps and their families.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There is no increase in net County cost.

The FY 2007-08 estimated cost of this program is estimated at $2,489,000 based upon an implementation date of October 1, 2007, including: $1,654,000 for the salaries and employee benefits for the 26 positions for nine months; $760,000 for services and supplies to purchase computers and printers and other staff-related supplies, a Departmental Service Order (DSO) with the Probation Department for the provision of five Clinic Nurses to support the integrated multidisciplinary plans for each youth, and for contract providers to provide supplemental treatment services at the nine camps during evening, night and weekend hours. DMH has recently completed RFS #13 to select contract providers to deliver these services, and it is anticipated that your Board will be requested to approve contracts with the selected providers within the next month.

The cost of the program is fully funded by MHSA CSS on-going funding and is currently appropriated in the DMH Adopted Budget for FY 2007-08.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The focus of the State-approved MHSA – CSS Plan (Plan) is on recovery-oriented services for people who are diagnosed as SED and/or with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI), as well as resiliency for children and youth. The Plan is designed to reduce and/or prevent homelessness, unnecessary hospitalization, and incarceration. Additionally, the Plan supports services that contribute to the reduction of recidivism rates for TAY with mental illness and co-occurring disorders that are at risk of incarceration in jail and juvenile justice settings.

In collaboration with the Probation Department Camp Redesign project, DMH will augment existing nursing services throughout the juvenile justice camps. Five (5) Clinic Nurses will deliver psychotropic medication and related medication support services to youth residing in the camps. DMH will fund these augmented nursing services through MHSA funding designated in the Plan. In order to access the funding for these positions, a DSO will be prepared and issued to the Department of Probation.

DMH has recently completed RFS #13 to select contract providers to deliver services and supports to SED minors residing in the nine Juvenile Probation Camps during evening, night and weekend hours. These services will be in accordance with the youth's individualized plan and be provided under the guidance of a multidisciplinary treatment team. It is anticipated that your Board will be requested to approve contracts with the selected providers within the next month.

The Department will be working with the CEO Classification Division to finalize allocation levels of the requested positions. These positions will ensure that individuals who are identified by Juvenile Justice Programs are provided the opportunity to receive the full array of services specified in the MHSA.

The proposed actions have been reviewed by the CEO and County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

During FY 2006-07, there were approximately 2,000 minors (of the 5,000 admitted) in the Probation Camps that were provided with mental health services. While youth move to the Probation Camps from the Juvenile Halls where their mental health needs have been identified, current mental health staffing patterns in the camps are not sufficient to address their on-going treatment needs. Increased mental health staffing levels are also required for DMH to fully participate in the Probation Camp Redesign.

MHSA funding will provide a significant increase in staff providing mental health and co-occurring substance abuse treatment in the Probation Camps. The enhanced programming will provide access to these services to camp youth who have heretofore been unserved or underserved and support DMH's transformation to recovery-oriented services. In addition, this enhanced mental health services delivery program will promote efforts to reduce recidivism, integrate families and other support systems in the youth's treatment, and work towards successful transitions from the Camps back into community settings.

CONCLUSION

The Department of Mental Health will need one (1) copy of the adopted Board's action. It is requested that the Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, notify the Department of Mental Health, Contracts Development and Administration Division, at (213) 738-4684 when this document is available.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

WTF:SRH:SAS
DRJ:DS:bjs

Attachments (2)

c: County Counsel
Director, Department of Mental Health
Chief Probation Officer
Chairperson, Mental Health Commission

091107_DMH_Youth

Attachment I

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
SPECIALIZED CHILDREN & YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU
MHSA - PROBATION CAMP SERVICES

DESCRIPTION	OBJECT	FTE	FULL YEAR ESTIMATE	FY 2007-08 ESTIMATE
SALARIES & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (See Attached Schedule)		26.0	$ 2,205,000	$ 1,654,000
SERVICES AND SUPPLIES (S&S)				
Computers	3971		39,000	39,000
Local Printer	3972		21,000	21,000
Training	4612		15,600	15,600
Office Supplies	3240		7,800	7,800
Mileage	5092		5,200	5,200
Travel	5110		2,600	2,600
Telecommunication (Cell Phone/Pagers)	2083		18,200	13,800
County Telephone	2076		21,000	16,000
Space	4422		237,600	
SUBTOTAL S&S - OPERATING COSTS			368,000	121,000
DSO for Probation for Five Clinic Nurse II's	3894		432,000	324,000
Contract Providers	4057		420,000	315,000
TOTAL S & S			1,220,000	760,000
FIXED ASSETS				
12 Seat Passenger Van (3 @ 25,000 each)	6031		75,000	75,000
TOTAL COST			$ 3,500,000	$ 2,489,000

Attachment II

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
PROBATION CAMP SERVICES
SPECIALIZED CHILDREN AND YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU
FY 2007-2008 – REQUEST FOR NEW POSITIONS

ITEM & SUB LETTER	DESCRIPTION OF POSITION	ORDINANCE POSITIONS	MAN MONTHS	FTE
05064A	Clinic Driver	1.0	12	1.0
05064A	Clinic Driver	1.0	12	1.0
05064A	Clinic Driver	1.0	12	1.0
08697A	Clinical Psychologist II	1.0	12	1.0
08697A	Clinical Psychologist II	1.0	12	1.0
08697A	Clinical Psychologist II	1.0	12	1.0
06697A	Clinical Psychologist II	1.0	12	1.0
08103A	Community Worker	1.0	12	1.0
02214A	Intermediate Typist Clerk	1.0	12	1.0
02214A	Intermediate Typist Clerk	1.0	12	1.0
02214A	Intermediate Typist Clerk	1.0	12	1.0
04735A	Mental Health Psychiatrist	1.0	12	1.0
04735A	Mental Health Psychiatrist	1.0	12	1.0
09035A	Psychiatric Social Worker II	1.0	12	1.0
09035A	Psychiatric Social Worker II	1.0	12	1.0
09035A	Psychiatric Social Worker II	1.0	12	1.0
09035A	Psychiatric Social Worker II	1.0	12	1.0
09035A	Psychiatric Social Worker II	1.0	12	1.0
09035A	Psychiatric Social Worker II	1.0	12	1.0
09035A	Psychiatric Social Worker II	1.0	12	1.0
09035A	Psychiatric Social Worker II	1.0	12	1.0
05884A	Substance Abuse Counselor	1.0	12	1.0
02216A	Sr. Typist Clerk	1.0	12	1.0
08712A	Sr Comm Mental Hlth Psychologist	1.0	12	1.0
09038A	Supvg Psychiatric Social Worker	1.0	12	1.0
00913A	Staff Assistant II	1.0	12	1.0
	TOTAL	**26.0**	**312**	**26.0**

AJ 7/19/07