County of Los Angeles
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE
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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

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April 15, 2008

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: APPROVE EXPENDITURE FOR THE NINTH ANNUAL MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION VOLUNTEER AND PROGRAM AWARDS
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Authorize the Ninth Annual Mental Health Commission Volunteer and Program Awards on May 23, 2008, including space and other arrangements at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels. The awards program is an opportunity for the Mental Health Commission (Commission) to recognize and honor outstanding members of the mental health community.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Approve the expenditure of funds for the Ninth Annual Mental Health Commission Volunteer and Program Awards, at an amount not to exceed $11,000.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Board approval of the recommended action will enable the Commission to implement the Ninth Annual Volunteer and Program Awards. The event is scheduled for May 23, 2008, at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels.

The Commission's Annual Volunteer and Program Awards is the sole opportunity for the Commission to recognize and honor outstanding members of the mental health community. The Commission, by law, is comprised of 51 percent clients and family members appointed by the Board to advocate for the thousands of men, women and children who face this disabling disease. Stigma is the single greatest challenge clients' face. This event is an opportunity to showcase that hope, wellness and recovery are possible and to acknowledge those who have dedicated their mind, heart and soul to the cause.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended Board Action is consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan's Organizational Goal No. 1, "Service Excellence," Goal No. 5, "Children and Families' Well-Being" and Goal No. 7, "Health and Mental Health." Board approval will allow the Commission's Annual Volunteer and Program Awards to continue.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There is no additional net County cost. Awards program costs in Fiscal Year 2007-08 are estimated at $11,000. Sufficient appropriation is included in the Department's 2007-08 Final Adopted Budget to fund this program.

The funds will be used to pay for the facility, food, awards, and minor supplies. Approximately 250 individuals, including consumers, families, mental health program advocates, and Department employees will attend. There is no charge to the individuals who attend.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Department has paid for the annual program for the past eight years as part of its annual budget allocation to support the Commission.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

This event is an opportunity to showcase and reward programs and individuals that have improved the lives of those affected with mental illness.

CONCLUSION

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

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

WTF:SRS:SAS
MLM:DAS:bjs

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

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