

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## Family and Social Services

SACHI A. HAMAI  
Chief Executive Officer



**DATE:** Wednesday, April 29, 2020  
**TIME:** 1:30 PM

**DUE TO THE CLOSURE OF ALL COUNTY BUILDINGS, MEETING PARTICIPANTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL NEED TO CALL IN TO PARTICIPATE:**

**Teleconference Call-In Number: (323) 776-6996/ Conference ID: [747311624#](#)**

### AGENDA

Members of the Public may address agenda item. Three (3) minutes are allowed for each item.

- I. Call to Order
- II. **Presentation/Discussion Items:**
  - a. **Department of Public Health (DPH):** Presentation on Domestic Violence Program Service Update During COVID-19 Emergency.
  - b. **DPH:** Presentation on Early Childhood Education Program Service Update During COVID-19 Emergency.
- III. **Informational Items** (Any informational item is subject to discussion and/or presentation at the request of two or more Board offices with advance notification):
  - c. **Department of Military and Veterans Affairs:** Request Approval to Accept State Funds Under California Proposition 63 (Mental Health Services Act)- Outside the Wire-Transition Assistance Program.
- IV. Items continued from a previous meeting of the Board of Supervisors or from a previous FSS Agenda Review meeting.
- V. Public Comment
- VI. Adjournment



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS  
1816 S. Figueroa Street  
Los Angeles California 90015



Ruth A Wong  
Director

May 12, 2020

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:

**ACCEPT STATE FUNDS UNDER CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 63 (MENTAL  
HEALTH SERVICE ACT) – OUTSIDE THE WIRE-TRANSITION ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAM  
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)  
(3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) requests your Board's approval to enter into a contract with the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CDVA) to receive funding under Proposition 63 Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) for the Outside the Wire-Transition Assistance Program. The grant covers the period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2022.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Delegate authority to the Director of DMVA, or her designee, to execute a two-year contract with CDVA for the provision of the Outside the Wire-Assistance Program. The maximum sum for the two-year term will be \$400,000. (\$200,000/per year).
2. Delegate authority to the Director of DMVA, or her designee, to execute amendments to the contract with CDVA, as necessary, to accept additional funding, should such funds become available. Delegated authority is contingent upon approval by County Counsel, and written notification of at least ten business days to the Board and CEO.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Community colleges have proven to be excellent environments for prevention and early intervention of mental illness. Independent of one another, DMVA and United States Veterans Initiative (U.S. Vets) have worked with college campus' Veteran Resource Centers to improve the transition of veterans from the military to the community. DMVA's specialty is peer benefit counseling, claims development, and case management; U.S. Vets is the developer of the acclaimed Outside the Wire program, which provides prevention and early intervention counseling and case management to veterans and their families. OTW-TA builds on the success of the DMVA Veterans Outreach Liaison program (FY 18-19), which was established with CDVA support. Both agencies partnered at 13 different community college campuses in Los Angeles County, offering orientation presentations and workshops on critical topics like veterans' transition challenges, trauma-informed care, and military culture. Post 9/11 veterans will receive stigma-free prevention and early intervention services that address the root causes of reintegration problems. Decreasing the number of stressors and increasing connection to others are critical strategies in the approach. MVA's Communication team will prepare marketing materials for the program and an education piece that dispels myths about help-seeking and benefits procurement. Arming transitioning families with such information is among CDVA recommended practices. Once a student self-refers or is referred by another program on campus, they will be introduced to their personal DMVA representative/veteran and meet their provider. OTW-TA will address Mental Health, Benefits, Justice Involvement, Workforce Development, Homeless Assistance, Whole-Family Care, and Suicide Prevention.

Board approval is required to accept grant funds from CDVA.

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS**

The recommended actions support the County's Strategic Goal 1: Make Investments That Transform Lives: Address society's most complicated social, health, and public safety challenges by increasing our focus on prevention initiatives; and enhancing our delivery of comprehensive interventions.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The recommended actions will have no impact on net county cost. The program is fully financed by California Proposition 63 mental health funds.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

California Proposition 63 (Mental Health Services ACT or MHSA), passed in 2004. It provides increased funding for personnel and other resources to support County mental health programs. DMVA initiated action to obtain a portion of those monies from CDVA to provide services to military veterans and their families.

CDVA awarded DMVA a grant of \$25,000 for the period January 1, 2014, through October 31, 2015; a grant of \$20,000 from October 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016; and a grant of \$40,000 from July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019, to support Mental Health Outreach and Supportive Services for veterans, including treatment and other related recovery programs. DMVA, in partnership with U.S. Vets, applied funds for the Outside-Of-The Wire Transition Assistance Program (OTW-TA) and was awarded a grant of \$343,000 for the period July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020, to streamline the provision of critical services to post-9/11 veterans who attend community college and suffer mental health challenges related to their service and transition to civilian life. These programs reduce the long-term, adverse impact of untreated, severe mental illness.

DMVA and U.S. Vets applied for funds for the OTW-TA and was awarded not to exceed \$400,000 for a two-year term (\$200,000 per year). For the period July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2022. DMVA shall pay U.S. Vets for providing OTW-TA Program Services the amount not to exceed \$132,000 from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, and \$132,000 for the period July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

Payment will be made under an agreement between DMVA and CDVA, which memorializes the use of the funds.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The recommended actions will enhance current services and ensure the continuation of the Department's veteran's mental health outreach activities.

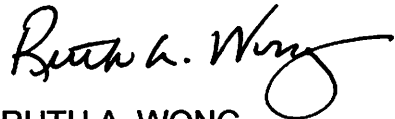
### **CONCLUSION**

Upon approval of this request, please instruct the Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors to send the original Board letter and attachments as soon as possible to:

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs  
Attention: Ruth A. Wong, Director  
1816 S. Figueroa Street  
Los Angeles, California 90015

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
May 12, 2020  
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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ruth A. Wong". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

RUTH A. WONG  
Director

RAW:rb

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel  
Chief Executive Officer