



Los Angeles County
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

November 07, 2018

19 November 7, 2018

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

CELIA ZAVALA
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVAL FOR HIRING AUTHORITY
TO ENHANCE THE WOMEN'S RE-ENTRY PROGRAM AND
ESTABLISH A WOMEN'S WELLBEING CENTER
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Request approval of temporary ordinance authority to add and fill 65 positions to expand the Women's Re-entry Program and develop a new Women's Wellbeing Center to provide a continuum of mental health services to women released from incarceration that have chronic and persistent mental illness.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

Approve temporary ordinance authority, pursuant to Section 6.06.020 of the County Code, for 65 full-time permanent positions in the Department of Mental Health (DMH) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19, as detailed in the attached list of Items (Attachment I), subject to allocation by the Chief Executive Office (CEO), Classification and Compensation.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Board approval of the recommended action will allow DMH to add and fill positions needed to fully implement and expand the existing Women's Re-entry Program to include Countywide field-based services and establish a new Women's Wellbeing Center at a new site to be determined. These two programs will provide a continuum of mental health services to women released from incarceration that have chronic and persistent mental illness and for those women that have stabilized and are on

the path to wellness and wellbeing.

The Women's Re-Entry Program's main clinic will remain at the Women's Community Reintegration Services and Education Center (WCRSEC), located in Supervisorial District 2. To meet the demand of services in all Supervisorial Districts, 44 of the 65 positions being requested will expand the program Countywide. The program will consist of four teams that have a standardized staffing pattern, with each team serving two Service Areas.

The Women's Re-Entry Program will work closely with the Office of Diversion and Re-Entry and the Century Regional Detention Facility (CRDF) through in-reach into the jail to identify the women who may need mental health services upon release from incarceration. The program will include multi-disciplinary mental health teams that will provide a range of mental health services including assessment, individual, psychological testing, group and family therapy, anger management, medication support, treatment planning, and case management to the women and their families. Ancillary services such as housing, substance use disorder services, benefits establishment, and advocacy as well as recreational and field trips will also be available.

Once the women have stabilized and are on their path to recovery, they will have the opportunity to transition to the Women's Wellbeing Center. The Women's Wellbeing Center will include two Service Teams that will provide mental health and rehabilitative services. The Women's Wellbeing Center will include the remaining 21 positions, mainly peers positions, that will facilitate peer led groups and provide coaching, mentoring, and peer support services as the primary service delivery model. Emphasis will focus on developing and equipping women with vocational, money management, social, community engagement, and coping skills to assist them in stabilizing their mental health needs. Recreational activities and field trips are also services available at the Women's Wellbeing Center.

To ensure a complete spectrum of services are available for these women, when needed, the Women's Wellbeing Center will collaborate with the Women's Re-Entry Program to provide clinical interventions and to leverage resources.

In order to fully implement the Women's Wellbeing Center and to expand the Women's Re-Entry Program Countywide, DMH is requesting Board approval for ordinance authority to add and fill 65 new items, with the understanding that the 21 items for the Women's Wellbeing Center will be filled when site space is located.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions are consistent with County's Strategic Plan Goal I: Make Investments that Transforms Lives; Strategy I.2: Enhance Our Delivery of Comprehensive Interventions; and Strategy I.3: Reform Service Delivery Within Our Justice Systems.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The estimated cost to hire the 65 FTE positions in FY 2018-19 is \$1,731,333 which represents a pro-rated amount. This amount is fully funded with State Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), Federal Financial Participation (FFP) Medi-Cal, 2011 Realignment-EPSTDT and State Aid Mental Health revenues.

DMH has sufficient appropriation available in the FY 2018-19 Final Adopted Budget for this action.

The annual cost of the 65.0 FTEs is \$7,425,000. Funding for future fiscal years will be included in DMH's annual budget request process.

There is no net County cost impact associated with the recommended actions.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The WCRSEC was designed to meet the complex needs of women being released from jail by providing mental health services through a multidisciplinary mental health treatment team focused on assisting these women with reintegrating back into their communities.

DMH reviewed and researched the best practices for working with this population and convened two focus groups in February 2017, to engage stakeholders and consumers in the re-design of the women's re-entry process. Participants in the focus groups included representatives from WCRSEC, Probation Department, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, staff from other DMH programs, and WCRSEC consumers. One group focused on women's re-entry and the other group focused on their wellbeing, resulting in the development of two separate programs: Women's Re-Entry and Women's Wellbeing programs.

To meet the changing, complex and emerging needs of this population, DMH sought to evolve and adapt the program to ensure that a full continuum of client-centered services are available to assist the women in their recovery. Women's Re-Entry services will include intensive mental health and supportive services needed by women released from incarceration and back into their community. The Women's Wellbeing Center will be comprised of peer-support/peer-led assistance in facilitating recovery and self-sufficiency.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The current WCRSEC program is actively working to align their services with the re-designed program in order to provide a seamless transition for current clients and prevent any interruption of mental health and supportive services.

DMH expects to serve approximately 700 clients through the re-designed program in the next year. Once fully implemented and staffed, Women's Re-entry and Women's Wellbeing Center will provide essential services to the target population as they transition between this continuum of care, thereby promoting hope, wellness, and recovery and mitigating risks of recidivism.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

11/7/2018

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JES', is centered on the page.

JONATHAN E. SHERIN, M.D., Ph.D.

Director

JES:GP:CB:CCS:SK:rlr

Enclosures

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

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

OUTPATIENT BUREAU - DIRECTLY OPERATED

WOMEN'S RE-ENTRY AND WOMEN'S WELLBEING PROGRAMS

Item Description	Full Time Equivalent (FTE)
A. Women's Re-Entry Program	
Mental Health Psychiatrist	1.0
Mental Health Clinical Prog Mgr II	1.0
Senior Mental Health Counselor, RN	1.0
Mental Health Counselor, RN	1.0
Supervising Psychologist	1.0
Clinical Psychologist II	3.0
Mental Health Clinical Supervisor	4.0
Psychiatric Social Worker II	2.0
Medical Case Worker II	7.0
Psychiatric Technician II	1.0
Secretary III	1.0
Senior Community Worker	1.0
Substance Abuse Counselor	2.0
Clinic Driver	1.0
Community Worker	16.0
Intermediate Typist Clerk	2.0
Women's Re-Entry Program Total	45.0
B. Women's Wellbeing Center	
Mental Health Clinical Supervisor	2.0
Psychiatric Social Worker II	2.0
Occupational Therapist II	1.0
Patient Resources Worker	1.0
Secretary III	1.0
Senior Community Worker	2.0
Senior Typist Clerk	1.0
Staff Assistant II	1.0
Clinic Driver	1.0
Community Worker	6.0
Intermediate Typist Clerk	2.0
Women's Re-Entry Program Total	20.0
Grand Total	65.0