May 11, 2010

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

Dear Supervisors:

APPROVAL OF THE CALIFORNIA MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the California Mental Health Services Authority Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for the purpose of developing and funding mental health services and education programs on a regional, Statewide, or local basis.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Adopt a Resolution and instruct the Chair of your Board and the Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, to certify and sign three copies of the attached Resolution (Attachment I).

2. Authorize the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to (1) sign and execute the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (substantially similar to Attachment II) between the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and other participating entities of the California Mental Health Services Authority (CMHSA), for the purpose of jointly developing and funding mental health services and education programs on a Statewide, regional, or local basis; and (2) serve on its board and act as the representative of the County.

3. Authorize the Director of Mental Health to expend the $1,000 application fee to participate in the CMHSA.
PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will authorize the County to execute an agreement to jointly exercise powers with other participating counties and cities who are members of the CMHSA.

The Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC), the State body with authority over the Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) component of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), identified multiple PEI projects to be undertaken with MHSA funding reserved by the State for Statewide projects, $46,713,600 of which has been designated for Los Angeles County. PEI projects identified by MHSOAC as Statewide projects include suicide prevention, student mental health, and stigma and discrimination reduction.

In response to the State Department of Mental Health’s (SDMH) delay in releasing the reserved funds, the California Mental Health Directors Association (CMHDA) determined that an efficient mechanism to implement such Statewide and regional projects would be through a single Statewide agency, such as a county mental health joint powers authority. This would provide an alternative to counties having to assign MHSA funds to the State to implement such Statewide and regional MHSA projects. Indeed, it is anticipated that final guidelines from the MHSOAC will require counties to expend their PEI Statewide Project Funds through a joint powers authority, by multi-county collaboration, or through assignment of those funds to the SDMH.

In July 2009, the CMHSA was formed for the purpose of jointly developing and funding mental health services and education programs on a Statewide, regional, or local basis. In addition to providing counties with an alternative to assigning MHSA funds to the State for Statewide projects, the CMHSA provides a mechanism to facilitate efficient use of resources for multiple counties by maximizing group purchasing power for products; jointly developing requests for proposals and to establish contracts with providers to accomplish agreed upon goals; reducing administrative overhead; centralizing compliance with reporting requirements; sharing research, information, and strategies; and negotiating cost-effective rates with various subcontractors Statewide. Moreover, the CMHSA can provide counties a centralized voice before the State Legislature, the SDMH, the MHSOAC, and other parties to address funding of county public mental health services, including PEI Statewide funding.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions support the County’s Strategic Plan Goal 1, Operational Effectiveness; Goal 2, Children, Family and Adult Well-Being; and Goal 4, Health and Mental Health.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There is a $1,000 application fee to participate in CMHSA (Attachment III). Aside from the application fee, participation in the CMHSA will not impose any additional County costs as MHSA funding for the Statewide PEI projects has been reserved for counties by the State and is separate from PEI programs developed by individual counties. There is no increase in net County cost.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Article 1, Chapter 5, Division 7, Title 1 of the California Government Code (the “Joint Exercise of Powers Act,” California Government Code Section 6500, et. seq.) permits two or more public
agencies, by agreement, to jointly exercise powers common to the contracting parties.

In July 2009, the CMHSA was formed. It provides an intergovernmental structure for counties to jointly develop, fund, and implement mental health services and educational programs at the state, regional, and local levels.

Currently, the CMHSA members are Butte, Colusa, Monterey, Placer, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Luis Obispo, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter, and Yuba Counties. Each member county has approved the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement. Implementation of Statewide PEI projects through the CMHSA will provide the County with an alternative to assigning PEI Statewide Project Funds to the State and will facilitate efficiencies through joint action with participating counties.

The Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement has been reviewed by County Counsel and has been found to meet the statutory requirements necessary for a joint powers agreement. The Chief Executive Officer has reviewed the proposed actions.

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

Counties will benefit directly and indirectly from these Statewide projects through training and technical assistance provided to counties and their PEI partners’ support for the implementation of local PEI projects, media and social marketing materials in multiple languages, model program sites, enhanced State and local partnerships, coordinated State and local efforts, research and evaluation, and Statewide quality improvement activities. Establishing an alternative to State administration of State-level MHSA programs through participation in the CMHSA will result in more cost–effective rates for services, reduced demands on County administrative services, and increased efficiency in implementing services.

**CONCLUSION**

It is requested that the Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, notify DMH’s Contracts Development and Administration Division, at (213) 738-4684, when the original executed resolutions are available.
The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
5/11/2010  
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Respectfully submitted,

\[ Signature \]

MARVIN J. SOUTHERD, D.S.W.  
Director

MJS:DM:LB:pfj

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Officer  
   County Counsel  
   Chairperson, Mental Health Commission  
   Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
RESOLUTION OF
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AND
THE CALIFORNIA MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, County wishes to participate in the Mental Health Services Act Prevention and Early Intervention Statewide project, by becoming a member of the California Mental Health Services Authority in order to jointly develop and fund mental health services and education programs on a Statewide, regional, or local basis.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors does hereby authorize Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W., Director of Mental Health, to accept the Joint Exercise of Powers of Authority Agreement with the California Mental Health Services Authority.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted on the ____ day of ____________, 2010 by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and authorities, for which said Board so acts.

SACHI HAMAI,
Executive Officer-Board of Supervisors
of the County of Los Angeles

By __________________________
Chair, Board of Supervisors

By __________________________

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
COUNTY COUNSEL

By __________________________
Principal Deputy County Counsel

JN: Resolution Attachment 1
CALIFORNIA MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY
JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT

This Agreement is executed in the State of California by and among those members, organized and existing under the Constitution of the State of California which are parties’ signatory to this Agreement. All such members, hereinafter called member, shall be listed in Appendix A, which shall be attached hereto and made a part hereof.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, Article 1, Chapter 5, Division 7, Title 1 of the California Government Code (the “Joint Exercise of Powers Act,” Government Code section 6500 et seq.) permits two or more public agencies by Agreement to exercise jointly powers common to the contracting parties; and

WHEREAS, Division 5 of the California Welfare and Institutions Code authorizes and directs California counties to obtain and administer public funds for, and to provide certain community mental health services to persons residing within said counties and cities; and

WHEREAS, in the November 2004 general election, the People of the State of California enacted Proposition 63, the Mental Health Services Act, which added certain provisions to the California Welfare and Institutions Code and to the California Revenue and Taxation Code, for the purpose of raising additional revenues and distribution of those revenues to California counties for use in providing expanded services in preventing, detecting, and treating mental illness among persons in their communities and other mental health sections of the Welfare and Institutions Code;

WHEREAS, the members executing this Agreement desire to join together for the purpose of jointly exercising their powers under some or all of the statutes referenced above.
NOW THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1
PURPOSES

This Agreement is entered into by the Members in order to jointly develop, and fund mental health services and education Programs as determined on a regional, statewide, or other basis. Such Programs may include, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) Addressing suicide prevention.
(b) Ethnic and cultural outreach.
(c) Stigma and discrimination reduction related to mental illness.
(d) Student mental health and workforce training and education.
(e) Training, technical assistance, and capacity building.
(f) The provision of necessary administrative services. Such administrative services may include, but shall not be limited to, establishing a depository for research materials and information regarding "best practices."

It shall be the intent of CMHSA that all such programs are fiscally self-contained requiring no additional funding from members. In addition, the indirect costs to operate the Authority shall be allocated to each of the Programs operated by the Authority as directed by its members.

ARTICLE 2
PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT

Each member, as a party to this Agreement, certifies that it intends to and does contract with all other members as parties to this Agreement and, with such other members as may later be added as parties to this Agreement. Each member also certifies that the
removal of any party from this Agreement, pursuant to Article 9, shall not affect this Agreement or the member's obligations hereunder.

ARTICLE 3
POWERS OF THE AUTHORITY

The Authority shall have all of the powers common to General Law counties in California and all additional powers set forth in the Article 1, Chapter 5, Division 7, Title 1 of the California Government Code (beginning with Section 6500), and is hereby authorized to do all acts necessary for the exercise of said powers. Such powers include, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) To make and enter into contracts.
(b) To incur debts, liabilities, and obligations.
(c) To acquire, hold, or dispose of property, contributions and donations of property, funds, services, and other forms of assistance from persons, firms, corporations, and government entities.
(d) To sue and be sued in its own name, and to settle any claim against it.
(e) To receive and use contributions and advances from members as provided in Government Code Section 6504, including contributions or advances of personnel, equipment, or property.
(f) To invest any money in its treasury that is not required for its immediate necessities, pursuant to Government Code Section 6509.5.
(g) To carry out all provisions of this Agreement.
(h) To define fiscal and Program participation and withdrawal provisions of members.
(i) Said powers shall be exercised pursuant to the terms hereof and in the manner provided by law.
ARTICLE 4
TERM OF THE AGREEMENT

This Agreement shall become effective on July 1, 2009. This Agreement shall continue in effect until lawfully terminated as provided herein and in Bylaws.

ARTICLE 5
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Authority shall be governed by the Board of Directors, which shall be composed of the local county or city mental health director from each member, appointed or designated, and acknowledged in writing, by the member governing body and serving at the pleasure of that body. Each director shall also designate an alternate director who shall have the authority to attend, participate in and vote at any meeting of the Board when the director is absent. A Director or alternate director, upon termination of office or employment with the county, shall automatically terminate membership on the Board.

To adhere to the regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission (Title 2, Division 6, California Code of Regulations), each Director and alternate shall file with the Authority the required Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) forms upon assuming office, during office, and upon termination of office.

Any vacancy in a director position shall be filled by the appointing governing body, subject to the provisions of this Article.

A majority of the membership of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. For voting purposes there shall be a total of 75 votes, whereas each member shall have one vote. The remaining votes shall be allocated to each member based on each member's proportionate percentage of the population based on the most recent census. This calculation shall be performed and reviewed annually in June, prior to the next fiscal year. Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement or any other duly executed Agreement of the
members, all actions of the Board shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present and voting; provided, that any action which is restricted in effect to only one of the Authority's Programs, shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of those Board members who participate in that Program.

At any meeting at which a quorum is initially present, the Board may continue to transact business notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough members to leave less than a quorum, provided that each action is approved by at least a majority of the number required to constitute a quorum, and is taken subject to the above-stated proviso concerning actions restricted to one Program and to special voting requirements, if any, stated elsewhere in this Agreement.

ARTICLE 6
ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS

(a) Annual Budget. The Authority shall annually adopt an operating budget which shall include a separate budget for each Program under development or adopted and implemented by the Authority.

(b) Funds and Accounts. The Authority shall establish and maintain such funds and accounts as may be required by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, or by any provision of law or any resolution of the Authority. Books and records of the Authority shall be open to inspection at all reasonable times by authorized representatives of members. Additionally, the Authority shall adhere to the standard of strict accountability for funds set forth in Government Code Section 6505.

(c) Annual Audit. Pursuant to Government Code Section 6505, the Authority shall either make or contract with a certified public accountant to make an annual Fiscal Year audit of all accounts and records of the Authority, conforming in all respects with the requirements of that section. A report of the
audit shall be filed as a public record with each of the members and also with the county auditor of the county where the home office of the Authority is located and shall be sent to any public agency or person in California that submits a written request to the Authority. The report shall be filed within twelve months of the end of the Fiscal Year or years under examination. Costs of the audit shall be considered a general expense of the Authority.

ARTICLE 7
RESPONSIBILITIES FOR FUNDS AND PROPERTY

The Treasurer of the Board shall have the custody of and disburse the Authority's funds. He or she may delegate disbursing authority to such persons as may be authorized by the Board of Directors to perform that function, subject to the requirements of (b) below.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 6505.5, the Treasurer of the Board shall:

(a) Receive and acknowledge receipt for all funds of the Authority and place them in the treasury so designated by the Treasurer of the Board to the credit of the Authority.

(b) Be responsible upon his or her official bond for the safekeeping and disbursements of all Authority funds so held by him or her.

(c) Be responsible for oversight of payment, when due, out of money of the Authority so held, all sums payable by the Authority. The Board of Directors may delegate authority to anybody or person to make such payments from Authority funds.

(d) Verify and report in writing to the Authority and to members, as of the first day of each quarter of the Fiscal Year, the amount of money then held for the Authority, the amount of receipts since the last report, and the amount paid out since the last report.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 6505.1, the Authority shall designate the public office or officers or person(s) who shall have charge of, handle, and have access to the
property of the **Authority** and shall require such officer(s) or person(s) to file an official bond in amount fixed by the contracting parties.

**ARTICLE 8**  
**WITHDRAWAL**

a) A **member** may withdraw as a party to this **Agreement** upon written notice no later than December 31 of the **Fiscal Year**, effective the end of the **Fiscal Year**, to the **Authority** if it has never become a participant in any **Program** or if it has previously withdrawn from all **Programs** in which it was a participant.

b) **Member's Program** Withdrawal from **Programs** will be defined in the specific **Program** Bylaws.

**ARTICLE 9**  
**CANCELLATION**

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 8, the **Board** of Directors may:

(a) Cancel any **member** from this **Agreement** and membership in the **Authority**, on a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the **Board members** present and voting. Such action shall have the effect of canceling the **member's** participation in all **Programs** of the **Authority** as of the date that its membership is canceled.

(b) Cancel any **member's** participation in a **Program** of the **Authority**, without canceling the **member's** membership in the **Authority** of participation in other **Programs**, on a majority vote of the **Board members** present and voting who represent participants in the **Program**.
The Board shall give sixty (60) days advance written notice of the effective date for any cancellation under the foregoing provisions. Upon such effective date, the member shall be treated the same as if it had voluntarily withdrawn from this Agreement, or from the Program, as the case may be.

ARTICLE 10
EFFECT OF WITHDRAWAL OR CANCELLATION

If a member's participation in a Program of the Authority is cancelled with or without cancellation of membership in the Authority, and such cancellation is effective before the end of the Fiscal Year for that Program, the Authority shall promptly determine and return to that member the amount of any unearned payment from the member for the Fiscal Year, such amount to be computed on a pro-rata basis from the effective date of cancellation.

Except as provided above, a member which withdraws or is cancelled from this Agreement and membership in the Authority, or from any Program of the Authority, shall not be entitled to the return of any payment to the Authority, or of any property contributed to the Authority. However, in the event of termination of this Agreement, such member may share in the distribution of assets of the Authority to the extent provided in Article 11 provided.

Those members who have withdrawn or been cancelled pursuant to Article 9 from any Program of the Authority during a coverage year shall pay any charges which the Board of Directors determines are due from the members for which were incurred during the members participation in any Program.
ARTICLE 11
TERMINATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS

A two-thirds vote of the total voting membership of the Authority, consisting of members, acting through their governing bodies, and the voting Board members from the member public entities, is required to terminate this Agreement; provided, however, that this Agreement and the Authority shall continue to exist after such election for the purpose of disposing of all claims, distributing all assets, and performing all other functions necessary to conclude the affairs of the Authority.

Upon termination of this Agreement, all assets of the Authority in each Program shall be distributed among those members who participated in that Program in proportion to their cash contributions and property contributed (at market value when contributed). The Board of Directors shall determine such distribution within six (6) months after disposal of the last pending claim or other liability covered by the Program.

ARTICLE 12
LIABILITY OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS, OFFICER, COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND ADVISORS

The members of the Board of Directors, Officers, committee members and advisors to any Board or committees of the Authority shall use ordinary care and reasonable diligence in the exercise of their powers and in the performance of their duties pursuant to this Agreement. They shall not be liable for any mistake of judgment or any other action made, taken or omitted by them in good faith, nor for any action taken or omitted by the agent, employee or independent contractor selected with reasonable care, nor for loss incurred through investment of Authority funds, or failure to invest.
No Board of Director, Officer, committee member or advisor to any Board or committee shall be responsible for any action taken or omitted by any other Board of Director, Officer, committee member, or advisor to any committee. No Board of Director, Officer, committee member or advisor to any committees shall be required to give a bond or other security to guarantee the faithful performance of their duties pursuant to this Agreement.

The funds of the Authority shall be used to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Authority and any Board of Director, Officer, committee member or advisor to any committee for their actions taken within the scope of the Authority. Nothing herein shall limit the right of the Authority to purchase insurance to provide such coverage as is hereinabove set forth.

ARTICLE 13
BYLAWS

The Board shall adopt Bylaws consistent with this Agreement which shall provide for the administration and management of the Authority.

ARTICLE 14
NOTICES

The Authority shall address notices, billings and other communications to a member as directed by the member. Each member shall provide the Authority with the address to which communications are to be sent. Members shall address notices and other communications to the Authority to the Executive Director of the Authority, at the office address of the Authority as set for in the Bylaws.
ARTICLE 15
AMENDMENT

A two-thirds vote of the total voting membership of the Authority, consisting of members, acting through their governing bodies, is required to amend this Agreement.

ARTICLE 16
PROHIBITION AGAINST ASSIGNMENT

No member may assign any right, claim or interest it may have under this Agreement, and no creditor, assignee or third party beneficiary of any member shall have any right, claim or title to any part, share, interest, fund, or asset of the Authority.

ARTICLE 17
EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE AMENDMENTS

Any duly-adopted amendment to this Agreement shall become effective upon the date specified by the Board and upon approval of any amended Agreement as required in Article 15. Approval of any amendment by the voting governing body of the members must take place no later than 60 days following the effective date specified by the Board.

ARTICLE 18
DISPUTE RESOLUTION

When a dispute arises between the Authority and the member, the following procedures are to be followed:
(a) Request for Reconsideration. The **member** will make a written request to the **Authority** for the appropriate committee to reconsider their position, citing the arguments in favor of the **member** and any applicable case law that applies. The **member** can also request a personal presentation to the governing body, if it so desires.

(b) Committee Appeal. The committee responsible for the **program** having jurisdiction over the decision in question will review the matter and reconsider the **Authority**'s position. This committee appeal process is an opportunity for both sides to discuss and substantiate their positions based upon legal arguments and the most complete information available. If the **member** requesting reconsideration is represented on the committee having jurisdiction, the committee **member** shall be deemed to have a conflict and shall be excluded from any vote.

(c) **Executive Committee** Appeal. If the **member** is not satisfied with the outcome of the committee appeal, the matter will be brought to the **Executive Committee** for reconsideration upon request of the **member**. If the **member** requesting reconsideration is represented on the **Executive Committee**, that **Executive Committee** member shall be deemed to have a conflict and shall be excluded from any vote.

(d) Arbitration. If the **member** is not satisfied with the outcome of the **Executive Committee** appeal, the next step in the appeal process is arbitration. The arbitration, whether binding or non-binding, is to be mutually agreed upon by the parties. The matter will be submitted to a mutually agreed arbitrator or panel of arbitrators for the determination. If binding arbitration is selected, then of course the decision of the arbitrator is final. Both sides agree to abide by the decision of the arbitrator. The cost of arbitration will be shared equally by the involved **member** of the **Authority**.
(e) Litigation. If, after the following the dispute resolution procedures above either party is not satisfied with the outcome of the non-binding arbitration process, either party may consider litigation as possible means of seeking a remedy to the dispute.

ARTICLE 19
DEFINITIONS

“Agreement” shall mean the Joint Powers Agreement of the California Mental Health Services Authority.

“Authority” shall mean the California Mental Health Services Authority created by this Agreement.

“Board of Directors” or “Board” shall mean the governing body of the Authority.

Authority “Fiscal Year” shall mean that period of twelve months which is established by the Board of Directors as the Fiscal Year of the Authority.


“Executive Committee” shall be defined by the bylaws, as to composition, powers, and terms.


“Member” shall mean any county or city which, through the membership of its Director of Mental Health as appointed by the governing body (pursuant to Welfare & Institutions Code Section 5751) has executed this Agreement and become a member of the Authority.

“Program” shall mean the mental health initiatives, but not limited to, that are described in this Agreement. The Board of Directors or the Executive Committee may determine applicable criteria for determining Member’s eligibility in any Program, as well as establishing Program policies and procedures.
ARTICLE 20
AGREEMENT COMPLETE

This Agreement constitutes the full and complete Agreement of the parties.
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>Allan Rawland</td>
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<td>Dr. Wayne Clark</td>
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<td>Curtis Boewer</td>
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<td>Dr. Karen Baylor</td>
<td>San Luis Obispo County</td>
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<td>Denise Hunt</td>
<td>Stanislaus County</td>
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CALIFORNIA MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND MEMBER LISTING

Mr. Allan Rawland, MSW – President
Mental Health Director
San Bernardino County
268 West Hospitality Lane, Suite 400
San Bernardino, CA 92415
Phone: (909) 382-3133
Fax: (909) 382-3105

Dr. Karen Baylor, PhD, MFT – Southern
Area Representative
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Mr. Mike Oprendek, LCSW - Vice President
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Ms. Denise Hunt, MFT – Central Area
Representative
Behavioral Mental Health Director
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800 Scenic Drive
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Fax: (209) 525-6291

Dr. Wayne Clark, PhD – Secretary and Bay
Area Representative
Behavioral Health Director
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Fax: (831) 755-4980

Tom Sherry, MFT-Board of Director
Member
Director Mental Health Services
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Fax: (530) 822-7108

Mr. Curtis Boower, MPA, MFT – Treasurer
Mental Health Director
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Colusa, CA 95932
Phone: (530) 458-0520
Fax: (530) 458-7751

Effective June 11, 2009
BY-LAWS

CALIFORNIA MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY

BYLAWS
BYLAWS
of the
CALIFORNIA MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY

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BYLAWS
of the
CALIFORNIA MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY

ARTICLE 1

Section 1.1 - Purpose

The CALIFORNIA MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY (Authority) is established for the purpose of the Members to jointly develop, and fund mental health services and education Programs as determined on a regional, statewide, or other basis. Such Programs may include, but are not limited to the following:

(a) Addressing suicide prevention.
(b) Ethnic and cultural outreach.
(c) Stigma and discrimination related to mental illness.
(d) Student mental health and workforce training and education.
(e) The provision of necessary administrative services. Such administrative services may include, but shall not be limited to, establishing a depository for research materials and information regarding “best practices.”

ARTICLE 2 - GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

Section 2.1 - Governing Documents

The governing documents of the Authority shall be the Joint Powers Agreement of the Authority (Agreement), these Bylaws, and the Bylaws for each program developed.

ARTICLE 3 - MEMBER ENTITIES

Section 3.1 - Membership

Each party to the Agreement is a member. Only those agencies defined in the Joint Powers Agreement are eligible to become a member of the Authority by agreeing to be bound by the governing documents and by complying with all of the following requirements:

3.1.1 Submit a completed application for membership 30 days before becoming a member. The application must be accompanied by the approved fee.
3.1.2 Submit applicant's signed resolution acknowledging intent to become a member under the terms and conditions then prevailing;
3.1.3 Execute the Agreement then in effect and agree to be bound by any subsequent amendments to the Agreement;
3.1.4 Be accepted for membership as provided in Section 3.2;
3.1.5 Appoint, by resolution, a director, who will designate an alternate to the Board as provided in Article 4.

3.1.6 Ensure all representatives (director and alternate) file with the Executive Director the required Fair Political Practices Commission ("FPPC") forms upon assuming office, during office, and upon termination of office.

Section 3.2 - Approval of Membership

The Executive Director shall review each applicant’s submittal and may schedule a meeting with the applicant to discuss. The Executive Director shall report the results which shall be the basis for the recommendation to the Board. The Board shall either approve, as provided in Section 4.1.3.1, or disapprove the application based upon the Executive Director’s recommendation, the application, and any inspections, reports, or other material which would be pertinent to the decision.

ARTICLE 4 - BOARD

Section 4.1 - Board Composition

4.1.1 The Board of the Authority shall be comprised of one representative from each member. In addition to the director, an alternate is designated by the director, who may vote in the absence of the director.

4.1.1.1 Each representative, when voting on Authority business, shall have the authority to bind his or her member to the action taken by the Board.

4.1.1.2 The member may change any of its representatives (director or alternate) to the Board by filing a resolution with the Authority.

4.1.1.3 At a Board meeting only one representative, if more than one representative is present, may vote.

4.1.2 The Board shall provide policy direction for the Executive Committee, and the Executive Director, and other appointed committees. The Board may delegate any of its responsibilities except those requiring a vote by the Board as specified in the Agreement or the Governing Documents.

4.1.3 The Board reserves unto itself the authority to do the following (except where specifically otherwise noted, the majority of the Board members present at a meeting may take action):

4.1.3.1 Accept a new member into the Authority;
4.1.3.2 Approve indebtedness (two-thirds vote of the entire Board);
4.1.3.3 Adopt a budget;
4.1.3.4 Amend these Bylaws;
4.1.3.5 Approve contracts for Authority administrative services and legal counsel;
4.1.3.6 Approve Program Bylaws (Participants in Program only);
4.1.3.7 Approve dividends and assessments to members of a program year;
4.1.3.8 Establish or terminate a program (Participants in Program only);
4.1.3.9 Expel a member from the Authority (two-thirds vote of the entire Board);
4.1.3.10 Terminate or suspend the rights of a member in default (two-thirds vote of the entire Board); and
4.1.3.11 Approve dissolution of Authority (two-thirds vote of entire Board.)

Section 4.2 - Meetings of the Board

4.2.1 The Board shall hold at least two regular meetings each year to review all operations of the Authority. The Board will establish a time and place to hold such regular meetings and notice shall be sent to each director, alternate. The Authority Secretary shall be responsible for minutes of the meetings, submission of copies of such minutes to the directors, and alternate representatives.

4.2.2 Every member is expected to have its director or alternate attend Board meetings.

4.2.3 All meetings of the Board shall be conducted in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code §54950 et seq.)

4.2.4 A special meeting may be called by the President or Vice President in the absence of the President, or 20% of the Board members by notifying the Executive Director of the purpose of the meeting. The Executive Director shall provide 24 hours written notice to each director and alternate representative stating the purpose, date, time, and place of the meeting.

Section 4.3 - Voting

All matters within the purview of the Board may be decided by a majority vote of the Board, except for as those matters which are specified as requiring a super majority vote of the Board, which then must be decided by the vote specifically prescribed in Section 4.1.3.

ARTICLE 5 – OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

Section 5.1 - Officers

The Officers of the Authority shall consist of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and a Secretary to the Board.

Section 5.2 - Eligibility for President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary

Eligibility for election and continuation in office as President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary shall be limited to one representative, of a member entity, to the Board.

Section 5.3 - Terms of Office

5.3.1 The terms of office for the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary shall be for two years, commencing with the start of the fiscal years in each of the odd calendar years or until their successors are elected.
5.3.2 In accordance with Government Code § 53607 and CMHSA Investment Policy, the Treasurer (an elected position) shall be appointed every year as the investment delegate by the President of the Board.

Section 5.4 - Elections

5.4.1 Election of officers shall be performed biennially.

5.4.2 As referenced in Section 6.2, after receiving nominations from members of the Board the Nominating Committee shall be responsible for developing a slate of nominees for regular elections.

5.4.3 Elections shall occur at the last regular Board meeting of the fiscal year in which the applicable officer term concludes. Those candidates receiving a majority of votes in each office will succeed to those offices. If no nominee receives a majority vote, the nominee with the least votes shall be deleted as a nominee and a new vote taken. This elimination process will continue until one nominee receives a majority vote. Each director to the Board or in the absence of any member, his/her alternate shall be eligible to vote.

5.4.4 The officers will serve for their elected terms with the Authority or until termination of office or employment with their member, or until removal from office by a majority vote of the Board, whichever is earliest.

5.4.5 Vacancies in any office shall be appointed by the President, with the approval of the Board, at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting held after the vacancy occurs. A vacancy in the position of President shall be filled by election at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting held after the vacancy occurs.

Section 5.5 - Duties

5.5.1 President - The President shall preside at all meetings of the Authority. The President shall appoint the members of all ad hoc committees, which may be formed as necessary or appropriate for carrying on the activities of the Authority. The President shall execute documents, or delegate to the Executive Director on behalf of the Authority as authorized by the Board, and shall serve as the primary liaison between this and any other organization. The President shall serve as ex-officio member of all committees.

5.5.2 Vice President - The Vice President shall also serve as ex-officio member of all committees, when the President is unable to attend. In the absence of or temporary incapacity of the President, the Vice President shall exercise the functions covered in Section 5.5.1 above.

5.5.3 Secretary - The Secretary will be responsible for the oversight of staff's preparation of all minutes and agendas of the Board, and any other committee meetings, preparing necessary correspondence, and maintaining files and records.

5.5.4 Treasurer - The Treasurer shall be responsible for: 1) ensuring the custody of and disbursement of Authority funds, accounts, and property, in accordance with the California Government Code; 2) supervising the maintenance of such records to assure that financial accounts, records, funds, and property are maintained in accordance with
accepted accounting practices and procedures prescribed by the Government Accounting Standards Board; 3) providing for inspection of all financial records; 4) overseeing, monitoring, and reporting on investment action; and, 5) overseeing and monitoring the financial audit.

ARTICLE 6 - COMMITTEES

Section 6.1 – Executive Committee

6.1.1 **Members.** To facilitate the expeditious handling of transactions relating to the Authority’s operations, an Executive Committee is established. The members shall be: 1) the offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary; and 2) five directors representing the five areas. On July 1 of each even numbered year, four of the representatives shall be elected for a two-year term to commence on July 1 of each even numbered year. On July 1 of each odd numbered year, one representative shall be elected for a two-year term to commence July 1 of each odd numbered year to serve on the Executive Committee along with the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. A majority of the members of the Executive Committee is a quorum for the transaction of business.

6.1.2 **Meetings.** The Executive Committee will meet as required by business, but not less than four times a year. Such meetings will be duly noticed to all Board directors and alternate representatives. The Authority Secretary shall be responsible for minutes of the meetings and shall send copies of such minutes to all Board directors, and alternate representatives.

All meetings of the Executive Committee shall be conducted in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code § 54950, et seq.).

6.1.3 **Duties.** The Executive Committee shall have the same authority as that of the Board except for those authorities specifically reserved unto the Board in Article 4.1.3.

6.1.4 **Attendance.** Attendance of Executive Committee members is essential to conducting the business of the Authority. An Executive Committee member missing a maximum of two meetings in a fiscal year, shall be subject to review by the Board or Executive Committee concerning forfeiture of his/her membership on the Executive Committee.

6.1.5 **Vacancies.** The remaining term of the vacant representative position shall be appointed by the President, with the approval of the Board, at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting held after the vacancy occurs.

6.1.6 **Appeal Process.** Any action taken by the Executive Committee may be appealed by a minimum of 20% of the members of the Authority to the Board by filing a written appeal with the Executive Director within 14 days following the date the minutes are mailed as provided in Section 6.1.2. Upon receipt of such appeal, the Executive Director shall stay the action, and place the appeal on the agenda of the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. The decision of the Board shall be final.
Section 6.2 - Nominating Committee

6.2.1. A nominating committee shall be appointed by the President with the consent of the Board for the purpose of annual elections of Executive Committee members and the biennial elections of officers. The Nominating Committee shall consist of a minimum of three and a maximum of five members, and shall not include more than two members of the Executive Committee.

6.2.2. The nomination of candidates for the officers and Executive Committee shall be made in writing to the Board no later than 30 days prior to the last regular Board meeting of the fiscal year. The slate of nominees will be mailed to each member at least seven days before the last regular Board meeting of the fiscal year. Additional candidate(s) may be nominated at the time of the meeting, provided the candidate(s) meet the requirements set forth in Sections 5.4 and 6.1.

Section 6.3 - Other Committees

6.3.1. At any time the President may appoint an ad hoc committee.

6.3.2. The Executive Committee has the authority to add additional committee(s) as deemed necessary.

ARTICLE 7 - FINANCIAL AUDIT

Section 7.1 - Audit Required

The Board shall cause to be made, by a qualified, independent individual or firm, an annual audit of the financial accounts and records of the Authority. The minimum requirements of the audit shall be those prescribed by State law.

Section 7.2 - Filing an Audit

The financial audit report shall be filed with the State Controller's Office within 6 months of the end of the fiscal year under examination. The Authority shall have a copy of the audit report filed as a public record with each member.

Section 7.3 - Costs of Audit

The Authority shall bear all costs of the audit. Such costs shall be charged against the operating funds of the Authority.

ARTICLE 8 - FISCAL YEAR

Section 8.1 - Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Authority shall be the period from July 1st of each year through June 30th of the subsequent year.
ARTICLE 9 - BUDGET

Section 9.1 - Budget

The Board shall adopt an annual budget by July 1 of each year, with receipt of a draft budget forty-five days prior thereto.

ARTICLE 10 - ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF FUNDS

Section 10.1 - Administration of Funds

The Authority is responsible for the strict accountability of all funds and reports of all receipts and disbursements. It shall comply with every provision of law relating to the subject, particularly Section 6505 of the California Government Code.

The funds received for each program shall be accounted for separately on a full-accrual basis. The portion of each program contribution allocated for payment of expenses, if any, shall be held by the Authority for the program participants for each program, and accounted for as prescribed by program bylaws.

Section 10.2 - Deposit and Investment of Authority Funds

The Treasurer may deposit and invest Authority funds, subject to the same requirements and restrictions that apply to the deposit and investment of the general funds in accordance with California Government Code and in accordance with the Investment Policy annually.

Section 10.3 - Accounting Method for Programs

The accounting method for each program will be in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws governing that program and the principles established by the Government Accounting Standards Board.

ARTICLE 11 - ADMINISTRATION

Section 11.1 - Executive Director

The Board shall appoint the Authority’s Executive Director. The Executive Director shall be responsible for the daily administration, management, and operation of the Authority’s programs and shall be subject to the direction and control of the Board and the Executive Committee. The Executive Director may, but need not be, an employee of the Authority, a consultant, or a corporation. Such arrangement shall be governed by contract and approved by Board.

Section 11.2 - Compensation and Employment

The Authority shall compensate the Executive Director for services rendered to the Authority in such amount and manner as may be approved by the Board. Details respecting compensation, termination, and other employment related matters pertaining to the Executive Director shall be governed by such terms and conditions as the Board shall establish.
ARTICLE 12 - PROGRAMS

Section 12.1 - Formation of Programs

12.1.1 The Authority may establish, as provided in Section 4.1.3.8, programs in such areas as the Board may determine.

12.1.2 The Authority may authorize and use administrative funds to study the development/feasibility of new programs. In the event of such development, the estimated member contributions shall be developed by the Executive Director and presented in writing to each member. Each member shall have 60 days from the date of such notice to state in writing its intent to join or refrain from joining the new program. Unless written notice of acceptance into a program is provided to the Executive Director by the member, it shall be presumed that the member declines to participate in the program. Upon conclusion of the notice period, member contributions will be determined and billed to the members committed to join. Each member that elects to participate will be bound to the new program for the period of time so required by the Bylaws of that program.

12.1.3 The Board shall adopt and maintain Program Bylaws to establish the operating guidelines of the program.

Section 12.2 - Program Withdrawal or Expulsion

12.2.1 Withdrawal or expulsion by a member from any program shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws governing that program.

12.2.2 The withdrawal or expulsion of any member of any program after the effective date of such program shall not terminate its responsibility to contribute its share of contributions to any fund or program created by the Authority. All current and past members shall be responsible for their respective share of the expenses, as determined by the Executive Director, until all unpaid liabilities, covering the period of the member’s participation in the program have been finally resolved and a determination of the final amount of payments due by, or credit to, the member for the period of its participation has been made. The withdrawal or expulsion of any member from any program shall not require the repayment or return to that member of all or any part of any contributions, payments, advances, or distributions except in conformance with the provisions set forth herein and in the program’s Bylaws.

12.2.3 Any member seeking to withdraw without proper and effective notice shall be responsible for the full cost of the subsequent year’s contribution, and the notice will be deemed effective for the following year.

12.2.4 No member can be expelled from a program except as provided by Article 14 of these Bylaws.
ARTICLE 13 – RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEMBER ENTITIES

Section 13.1 – Governing Documents

Each Member Entity shall comply with the provisions of the governing documents.

Section 13.2 – Timely Payment

Each Member Entity shall timely pay all premiums, fees, charges and assessments imposed or levied by the Authority.

Section 13.3 – Late Fees

Members with delinquent amounts due shall be assessed a penalty which shall be one percent of the unpaid amount due and payable to the Authority 30 days after the initial invoice due date. A penalty of another one percent shall accrue after an additional 45 days. Interest shall accrue on all delinquent amounts due and payable to the Authority at the applicable rate of 5% per annum from the due date of the billing until the date finally posted by the designated financial institution. Each member shall indemnify the Authority from any expense resulting from its failure to pay the sum due on or before the due date. The Board may elect to temporarily suspend service or other deliverables, as deemed appropriate if a member fails to pay its contribution. For the purpose of assessing penalties and interest, the fee calculation shall be based on each calendar day the delinquent amount is late and not withstanding the foregoing no late fee or other charge shall exceed the maximum authorized by law.

Any late fee assessed in accordance with the provisions of this Section may be appealed. Such appeal shall be in accordance with the Authority’s Dispute Resolution Policy.

Section 13.4 – Cooperation

13.4.1 Each Member Entity shall provide the Authority with requested information and assistance in order to fulfill the programs under this Agreement.

13.4.2 Each Member Entity shall in all ways cooperate with and assist the Authority in all matters relating to this Agreement and comply with the policies, procedures and rules promulgated by the Authority.

Section 13.5 – Confidential Records

Each Member Entity shall maintain all confidential records in accordance with state regulations under the California Government Code § 6250, et seq., the California Public Records Act.

ARTICLE 14 - DEFAULTS AND EXPULSION FROM THE AUTHORITY

Section 14.1 - Events or Conditions of Default Defined

14.1.1 The following shall be "defaults" under the Agreement and these Bylaws:
14.1.1.1 Failure by a member to observe and/or perform any covenant, condition, or agreement under the Governing Documents.

14.1.1.2 Consistent failure to: attend meetings, submit requested documents and cooperate in the fulfillment of the program objectives;

14.1.1.3 Failure to pay any amounts, including penalties and interest, due to the Authority for more than 30 days;

14.1.1.4 The filing of a petition applicable to the member in any proceedings instituted under the provisions of the Federal Bankruptcy Code or under any similar act which may hereafter be enacted; or

14.1.1.5 Any condition of the member which the Board believes jeopardizes the financial viability of the Authority.

Section 14.2 - Remedies on Default

14.2.1 Whenever any event of default referred to in Section 14.1 of this article shall have occurred, it shall be lawful for the Authority to exercise any and all remedies available pursuant to law or granted pursuant to the Agreement and these Bylaws. However, no remedy shall be sought for defaults, until the member has been given 30 days written notice of default from the Board, except defaults under Sections 14.1.1.4 and 14.1.1.5.

14.2.2 Expulsion of a Member Entity from the Authority:

14.2.2.1 The Board, as provided in Section 4.1.3.1, may expel any member (from the Authority) that is in default, as defined in Section 14.1.1 of this Article.

14.2.2.2 Such expulsion shall be effective on the date prescribed by the Board, but not earlier than 30 days after written notice of expulsion has been personally served on or sent certified mail to the member.

14.2.2.3 The expulsion of any member from any program shall not terminate the member's responsibility to contribute its share of contributions or funds to any fund or program created by the Authority, nor its responsibility to provide requested data. All current and past participants shall be responsible for their respective share of the expenses, as determined by the Executive Director, until all unpaid liabilities, covering the period of the participant's participation in the program have been finally resolved and a determination of the final amount of payments due by, or credit to, the participant for the period of its participation has been made.

14.2.3 Cancellation of a Program:

14.2.3.1 Upon the occurrence of any default, the Board may temporarily cancel all rights of the defaulting member in any program in which such member is in default until such time as the condition causing default is corrected.

14.2.3.2 Upon the occurrence of any default, the Board, as provided in Section 4.1.3.10, may cancel permanently all rights of the defaulting member in any program in which such member is in default.
14.2.4 No remedy contained herein is intended to be exclusive. No delay or omission to exercise any right or power accruing upon any default shall impair any such right or shall be construed to be a waiver thereof.

Section 14.3 - Agreement to Pay Attorney's Fees and Expenses

In the event either the Authority or a member entity is in breach of the Agreement and the other party employs attorneys or incurs other expenses for the collection of moneys or the enforcement of performance or observance of any obligation under the Agreement on the part of the defaulting party, the defaulting party shall pay to the other party the reasonable fees of such attorneys and such other expenses so incurred by the other party.

Section 14.4 - No Additional Waiver Implied by One Waiver

In the event any condition contained in the governing documents is breached by either party and thereafter waived by the other party, such waiver shall be limited to the particular breach so waived and shall not be deemed to waive any other breach hereunder.

ARTICLE 15 - LEGAL REPRESENTATION

Section 15.1 - Counsel Authorized

Legal counsel, to advise on matters relating to the operation of the Authority, may be recommended by the Executive Director and approved by the Board.

The Authority shall have the right to pay such legal counsel reasonable compensation for said services.

ARTICLE 16 - EXECUTION OF CONTRACTS

Section 16.1 - Authorization by Board

The Board or Executive Committee may authorize the Executive Director, any officer or officers, agent or agents, to enter into any contract or execute any instrument in the name and on behalf of the Authority and such authorization may be general or confined to specific instances. Unless so authorized by the Board, no officer, agent, or employee shall have any power or authority to bind the Authority by any contract or to pledge its credit or to render it liable for any purpose or to any amount.

Section 16.2 - Representative and Officers Insurance

The Authority may purchase insurance indemnifying the Directors, Officers, and Administrative staff for personal liabilities arising out of wrongful acts in the discharge of their duties to the Authority or may elect to self-insure such risk.
ARTICLE 17

Section 17.1 – Termination and Distribution

The Agreement, these Bylaws, and the Authority continue to exist after termination for the purpose of disposing of all claims, distribution of assets, and all other functions necessary to conclude the obligations and affairs of the Authority.

Upon termination of the Authority, the assets of the Authority shall be distributed and apportioned among the member entities that have been members in its programs, including those member entities which previously withdrew or were expelled pursuant to ARTICLES 13 and 14 of these Bylaws, and as provided by the Program Bylaws. Any additional funds received after the above distributions are made shall be returned in proportion to the contributions made.

ARTICLE 18 - NOTICES

Section 18.1 - Notices

Any notice to be given or to be served upon any party hereto in connection with these Bylaws must be in writing (which may include facsimile) and will be deemed to have been given and received when delivered to the address specified by the party to receive the notice. Any party may, at any time by giving five days prior written notice to the other parties, designate any other address in substitution of the foregoing address to which such notice will be given.

Section 18.2 - Claims Against the Authority

Claims against the Authority shall be presented to the mailing address of the Authority.

ARTICLE 19 - EFFECTIVE DATE

Section 19.1 - Effective Date and Supremacy

These Bylaws shall be effective immediately upon the date of approval and upon adoption shall supersede and cancel any prior Bylaws and/or amendments thereto.

However, the adoption of these Bylaws shall not affect the Agreement or any amendments to it. Any clauses in these Bylaws that are inconsistent with the Agreement shall be superseded by those clauses in the Agreement but only to the extent of the inconsistency.

ARTICLE 20 - AMENDMENTS

Section 20.1 – Procure to Amend

These Bylaws may be amended or repealed from time to time as provided in Section 4.1.3.4 provided, however, that at least 30 days prior to the taking of such action, written notice has been given to each director, alternate representative, substitute alternate representative (if applicable).
CMHSA
California Mental Health Services Authority

3043 Gold Canal Drive, Suite 200 + Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 + PH: (916) 859-4800 FAX: (916) 859-4803

Name/Title

Telephone

County

Email Address

County Information

I. Population Information:

II. Application Fee Schedule (Based on 2008 population)

[ ] Population greater than 10 million: $1,000
[ ] Population 1 million to 10 million: $750
[ ] Population 100,000 to 1 million: $500
[ ] Population less than 100,000: $250

Please issue warrant to California Mental Health Services Authority $___________

OR

[ ] Application Fee will be paid upon the first reassignment of program funds to CMHSA

III. Requested Date of Membership: ____________

Signature

Date

Please complete form and submit via email to kim.santin@georgehillscoms. Print and/or save completed form for your records.