

## MEMORANDUM

To: Regional Steering Committee on Homelessness and Housing  
From: HomeBase  
Date: November 18, 2005  
Re: The Mental Health Services Act: Community Services and Supports Plans

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### Introduction

The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) provides funding for services and supports that promote wellness, recovery and resiliency for adults and older adults with severe mental illness and for children and youth with serious emotional disorders and their family members.

To garner that funding, the MHSA imposes an additional 1% tax on that portion of a taxpayer's taxable income in excess of one million dollars. These funds are deposited in the State Treasury in the Mental Health Services Fund. It is estimated the new tax will raise in excess of \$600 million dollars per year. Funding will be made annually from this Fund to counties to accomplish the following:

- Define serious mental illness among children, adults and seniors as a condition deserving priority attention, including prevention and early intervention services and medical and supportive care.
- To reduce the long-term adverse impact on individuals, families and state and local budgets resulting from untreated serious mental illness.
- To expand the kinds of successful, innovative service programs for children, adults and seniors begun in California, including culturally and linguistically competent approaches for underserved populations.
- To provide state and local funds to adequately meet the needs of all children and adults who can be identified and enrolled in programs under this measure.
- To ensure that all funds are expended in the most cost-effective manner and services are provided in accordance with recommended best practices subject to local and state oversight to ensure accountability to taxpayers and to the public.

### Components of the MHSA

The Department of Mental Health has identified six MHSA components that need to be woven into an Integrated Plan at the local level and a comprehensive strategy at the state level. The components are:

1. Community Program Planning (Local Planning, Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) §§ 5847, 5848, 5892)
2. Community Services and Supports (System of Care Services, WIC §§ 5847, 5878.1-5878.3, 18257 and 5813.5)
3. Capital Facilities and Information Technology (WIC § 5847)
4. Education and Training Programs (WIC §§ 5820-5822, 5847)
5. Prevention and Early Intervention Programs (WIC §§ 5840, 5847)
6. Innovative Programs (WIC §§ 5830, 5847)

The first two components, Community Program Planning and Services and Supports, are the first

to be implemented. Communities already have received Community Program Planning funds (if the application was approved), and either have finished, or are finishing their Community Services and Supports plans.

### **Community Services and Supports Funding**

In order to receive MHSA Community Services and Supports funding, each county must develop a three-year program and expenditure plan.

All county plans must address and incorporate five essential concepts:

- Community collaboration;
- Cultural competence;
- Client/family-driven mental health system for older adults, adults and transition age youth and family-driven system of care for children and youth;
- Wellness focus, which includes the concepts of recovery and resilience; and
- Integrated service experiences for clients and their families throughout their interactions with the mental health system.

In order to implement CSS plans that are consistent with these requirements, DMH is making three types of funding available to counties. The three types are:

- Full Service Partnership Funds – funds to provide necessary services and supports for initial populations;
- General System Development Funds – funds to improve services and infrastructure; and
- Outreach and Engagement Funding – funds for those populations that are currently receiving little or no service.

The MHSA Plan Requirements are based on a logic model that links:

- (1) community issues resulting from untreated mental illness + a lack of services/ supports;
- (2) mental health needs within the community;
- (3) the identification of specific initial populations to be served based upon the issues and needs identified;
- (4) the strategies and activities to be implemented; and
- (5) the desired outcomes to be achieved.

Counties are required to request the majority of their total CSS funding for Full Service Partnerships, in order to begin to provide full service to as many individuals/families as possible. Services funded from General System Development or Outreach and Engagement funds provided to individuals who have Full Service Partnerships may be counted in meeting this requirement. Small counties are required to request the majority of their total CSS funding by Year 3 (FY 2007-08).

Counties must plan for each age group in their initial populations to be served. If a county does not believe it can begin providing expanded mental health services for each age group in the three-year period, they must explain why this is not feasible, indicate their plan to provide full service to at least some populations in each age group by Year 3 of this plan, and provide assurance that remaining age groups will be addressed in the subsequent plans.

The counties will be expected to embed the five essential elements throughout the following

sections and in this sequence:

- Section I: Identifying Community Issues Related to Mental Illness and Resulting from Lack of Community Services and Supports
- Section II: Analyzing Mental Health Needs in the Community
- Section III: Identifying Initial Populations for Full Service Partnerships
- Section IV: Identifying Strategies
- Section V: Assessing Capacity
- Section VI: Developing Work Plans with Timeframes
- Section VII: Developing Budget Requests.

### Community Services and Supports Plans

Following is a listing of the counties that have submitted their Mental Health Services Act Community Services and Supports Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plans to the State and the dates those plans were submitted:

County	Date Submitted
Colusa	11/07/05
Fresno	09/30/05
Lassen	10/24/05
Los Angeles	10/13/05
Monterey	10/25/05
Placer	11/02/05
San Francisco	11/15/05
Stanislaus	10/19/05

Following is a listing of Public Feedback Meetings for Counties' Community Services and Supports Plans:

COUNTY	MEETING DATE & PLAN STATUS
Alameda	Draft Plan available online: <a href="http://bhcs.co.alameda.ca.us">http://bhcs.co.alameda.ca.us</a> As of 11/18/05 in 30-day public review and comment period. Public hearings: <b>Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> &amp; 13<sup>th</sup> 2005</b> location/time TBA on website listed above. Contact <u>Gary Spicer</u> (510) 567-8100 or <a href="mailto:spicer@bhcs.mail.co.alameda.ca.us">spicer@bhcs.mail.co.alameda.ca.us</a>
Contra Costa	Draft Plan available online: <a href="http://www.cchealth.org">http://www.cchealth.org</a> Contra Costa Mental Health Commission will host a public hearing on the draft plan: <b>December 7<sup>th</sup> 2005</b> at the Board of Supervisors Chamber 651 Pine Street, Martinez. Contact <u>Kimberly Mayer</u> (925) 957-5132 or <a href="mailto:kmayer@hsd.co.contra-costa.ca.us">kmayer@hsd.co.contra-costa.ca.us</a>
Marin	Planning studies and workgroup summaries available online: <a href="http://www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/HH/Main/mh/mhsa_faq.cfm">http://www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/HH/Main/mh/mhsa_faq.cfm</a> MHSA Steering Committee Meeting: <b>December 20<sup>th</sup> 2005</b> location and time TBA Contact <u>Bruce Gurganus</u> (415) 499-6769 or <a href="mailto:bgurganus@co.marin.ca.us">bgurganus@co.marin.ca.us</a>
Monterey	Plan has been submitted to the state. Plan available online: <a href="http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/health/BehavioralHealth/Prop63.htm">http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/health/BehavioralHealth/Prop63.htm</a> Sign up for notice of meetings: <a href="http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/health/BehavioralHealth/SignUp.htm">www.co.monterey.ca.us/health/BehavioralHealth/SignUp.htm</a> Contact information: E-Mail: <a href="mailto:Prop63mc@redshift.com">Prop63mc@redshift.com</a> Fax: (831) 424-9808 Toll-Free Telephone: (866) 418-6624.

Napa	Information is available at: <a href="http://www.co.napa.ca.us/GOV/Departments/DeptPage.asp?DID=50000&amp;LID=1285">http://www.co.napa.ca.us/GOV/Departments/DeptPage.asp?DID=50000&amp;LID=1285</a> Future meeting dates and locations <b>TBA</b> Contact <u>Patricia Tyler</u> (707) 259-8688 or <a href="mailto:ptyler@co.napa.ca.us">ptyler@co.napa.ca.us</a>
San Francisco	Plan available online: <a href="http://www.sfdph.org/Prop63/">http://www.sfdph.org/Prop63/</a> Plan has been submitted to the state. Future public meetings will be scheduled when implementation of the plan begins. These dates will be announced on the website. Contact <u>Edwin Batongbacal</u> (415) 255-3446 or <a href="mailto:edwin.batongbacal@sfdph.org">edwin.batongbacal@sfdph.org</a>
San Mateo	Draft Plan available online: <a href="http://sanmateo.networkofcare.org/mh/home/prop63_sanmateo.cfm">http://sanmateo.networkofcare.org/mh/home/prop63_sanmateo.cfm</a> Board of Supervisors 2nd review was Nov 15, '05. Plan will now be submitted to State. Contact <u>Louise Rogers</u> (650) 573-2531 or <a href="mailto:lrogers@co.sanmateo.ca.us">lrogers@co.sanmateo.ca.us</a>
Santa Clara	Draft Plan available online: <a href="http://www.scvmed.org/channel/0,4770_chid%253D838527%2526sid%253D12443,00.html">http://www.scvmed.org/channel/0,4770_chid%253D838527%2526sid%253D12443,00.html</a> MHSA Mental Health Board Public Hearing Dates: <i>November 28<sup>th</sup> 2005 1:00-4:00pm Issac Newton Ctr 70 West Hedding St, San Jose</i> <i>November 29<sup>th</sup> 2005 4:00-6:30pm St. Francis Center 7950 Church Street, Gilroy</i> <i>Nov 30<sup>th</sup> 2005 7-9pm Mt. View City Council Chambers 500 Castro St, Mt. View</i> Contact <u>Nancy Pena, Ph. D.</u> (408) 885-5783 or <a href="mailto:nancy.pena@hhs.co.santa-clara.ca.us">nancy.pena@hhs.co.santa-clara.ca.us</a>
Santa Cruz	Draft plan available online: <a href="http://www.santacruzhealth.org/prop63/">http://www.santacruzhealth.org/prop63/</a> Comments may be submitted through the website. Contact <u>Norman Wyman</u> MFT (831) 454-4883 or <a href="mailto:norm.wyman@health.co.santa-cruz.ca.us">norm.wyman@health.co.santa-cruz.ca.us</a>
Solano	Public review and discussion date: <i>November 21<sup>st</sup> 2005 2:30-3:30pm Fairfield Library Becker Room 1150 Kentucky Street, Fairfield</i> Public hearing date: <i>November 29<sup>th</sup> 2005 6-8pm Hearing Rm 675 Texas St, Fairfield</i> Contact <u>Rod Kennedy</u> (707) 435-2233 or <a href="mailto:JRKennedy@solanocounty.com">JRKennedy@solanocounty.com</a>

### Connection to [new] Governor's Homeless Initiative Funding NOFA

On August 31, 2005, Governor Schwarzenegger announced an initiative to address long-term homelessness in California. As part of this initiative, he directed the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), the California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA) and the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to provide an integrated package of funding for the development of permanent supportive housing for persons with severe mental illness who are chronically homeless.

These housing development funds are intended to be complemented by Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funds from counties. Specifically:

“To be eligible under the NOFA, projects shall have commitments from the local County Mental Health Department for ongoing Mental Health Services Act funding. At a minimum, Counties must commit funding for services, and, where federal funding is inadequate for this purpose, funding for rent or operating subsidies as well. Since the State is making a major capital investment in housing intended to serve the Target Population for many years, County funding commitments shall be formalized through Memorandums of Understanding, or similar agreements, and shall be for the longest legally permissible term. County commitments must also be consistent with the Community Services and Supports plan submitted to (and ultimately approved by) the State.”

*For more information on this topic, please contact Karen Gruneisen at (415) 788-7961 x311 or [karen@homebaseccc.org](mailto:karen@homebaseccc.org), or Tina Silmon at (415) 788-7961 x302 or [tina@homebaseccc.org](mailto:tina@homebaseccc.org)*