

MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Adult System of Care

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H.
Placer County Health Officer and Director of Health & Human Services
Maureen F. Bauman, Director of Adult System of Care

DATE: October 6, 2009

SUBJECT: Approval of Joint Powers Authority for Statewide Mental Health Services Projects

ACTION REQUESTED:

Your Board is requested to take the following actions:

- a. Approve the attached Resolution authorizing the Department of Health and Human Services' participation in the California Counties' Mental Health Services Authority in order to jointly develop and fund mental health services and education programs as determined on a regional, statewide or other basis;
- b. Designate the Director of the Adult System of Care to represent Placer County on the Authority's Board of Directors; and
- c. Authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement and to sign all future documents pertaining to the Agreement that may be required.

No County General Funds are associated with this action.

BACKGROUND:

The California Government Code permits two or more counties to jointly exercise their authority with agreement between them. This structure provides the best services option when several counties identify similar local needs that can be addressed with a single coordinated response within a region or across the State. The State Department of Mental Health has set aside specific State funding to develop and provide statewide training, technical assistance and capacity building services and programs. These funds will be allocated to each county per law. Placer's portion will be \$42,000 annually and \$168,000 in total. To date there has been no simple alternative to respond to the requirement to establish a State-wide response other than the State Department of Mental Health. Programs implemented at the State have thus far been extremely slow to begin implementation. An alternative to this process would be the establishment of a Joint Powers Agreement between counties.

The 40-person Community Steering Committee overseeing the implementation of the Placer County State-funded mental health programs has agreed that a joint group of counties would provide a structure that could more quickly implement programs than the current State option. They supported the use of these funds for technical assistance be implemented through a JPA if one is developed, and approved the use of these funds for this purpose at its March 2009 Steering Committee meeting.

Eight counties have since established the California Mental Health Services Authority (CMHSA) to jointly develop and fund mental health services and education programs on a regional, statewide, or other basis. The counties included: Monterey, San Bernardino, Stanislaus, Solano, Colusa, San Luis Obispo, Shasta, Yuba and Sutter. All program options are determined by each individual county or subgroups of counties. All programs are expected to be fiscally self-contained and require no additional funding from members. The indirect costs to operate the Authority shall be allocated to each of the programs operated by the Authority as directed by its members.

The Placer County Prevention and Early Intervention Plan contains two specific programs that would benefit from State-wide technical assistance with strategies to reduce mental illness through screening, education, outreach, and resource-linking targeting the general population, Latino and Native American communities, youth, older adults, consumers of mental health services, primary care, law enforcement, medical professionals, and faith-based communities.

Health and Human Services routinely reviews alternatives to service delivery models and has consistently implemented design structures to provide the most cost efficient services that maximize the leveraging of outside resources. Contracting has consistently been identified for increased efficiency and decreased cost. The California Mental Health Services Authority provides such an opportunity for the implementation of State-funded and required mental health services requiring a statewide response. Placer County will utilize this option for service delivery only when it is most beneficial for the County. As resources are stretched, specific Prevention and Early Intervention programs will be maximized by combining funds with other counties.

FISCAL IMPACT:

All costs associated with the programs that will be implemented by the Authority will be funded with participating counties' State funding. The initial dollars for this project are State funds in the amount of \$42,000 per year for a total of \$168,000. There is no impact on County General Funds.

A copy of the California Mental Health Services Authority Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement is on file with Clerk of the Board for review.

**Before the Board of Supervisors
County of Placer, State of California**

In the matter of:

Resolution No: _____

Authorizing the Department of Health and Human Services' participation in the California Counties' Mental Health Services Authority in order to jointly develop and fund mental health services and education programs as determined on a regional, State-wide or other basis.

Ord. No.: _____

First Reading: _____

The following Resolution was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held _____ by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Attest: _____
Clerk of said Board

WHEREAS, in order to more efficiently develop and fund regional and State-wide, State-funded mental health services and education programs under the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), a number of California counties are proposing a Joint Powers Authority (JPA); and

WHEREAS, through the JPA, administration of MHSA programs can become more efficient and cost effective; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Mental Health has set aside separate Mental Health Services Act funding that would flow through the JPA, in addition to existing county allocations, to be used to fund critical regional and statewide needs such as suicide prevention, workforce training and education, and student mental health services; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Placer County hereby authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services' participation in the California Counties' Mental Health Services Authority in order to jointly develop and fund mental health services and education programs as determined on a regional, State-wide or other basis.

