

**MEMORANDUM  
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Children's 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  
Richard S. Knecht, Director, Children's System of Care

**DATE:** June 19, 2012

**SUBJECT:** Community Grant Making for Mental Health Services

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**ACTION REQUESTED:**

Approve a contract with the Placer Community Foundation in the amount of \$299,000 to award and administer State-funded mental health grants to provide innovative grassroots mental wellness services to County residents from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013, and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign subsequent amendments not to exceed 10% of the original contract amount, consistent with the current agreement's subject matter and Scope of Work.

**BACKGROUND:**

This contract continues a second year of use of State mental health funds to build upon the County's nationally known blended services model (the Placer model) to develop a shared partnership with community non-profit and private partners through providing small grants of \$500 to \$20,000 each to grassroots organizations that have existing support and service relationships with vulnerable County residents. This funding builds new innovative service models within Placer County's community partnerships, and will enhance the existing service methods utilized by our faith-based and other community-driven partners for more than 5,000 residents. These grants will continue to facilitate the transition to a more sustainable and dependable service model that is built on community capacity, supports independence for Placer County youth and families, and reduces the need for publicly-funded services.

In the previous community grant program, 23 applicants were funded. By way of example, two of these services included *The Soldiers Project* and *A Touch of Understanding*. *The Soldier's Project* has provided peer mentors for more than 15 returning veterans and their families to assist in the re-integration back into everyday life, and provided information and resource cards to Placer County's first responders to better assist veterans in times of crisis. *A Touch of Understanding* engaged over 100 disabled young people and their families in planning and participating in monthly activities in a safe and accepting environment.

The State Department of Mental Health has approved this plan, and concurs that this strategy is the most appropriate use of these dollars. This process also has the support of the County's Campaign for Community Wellness, the Mental Health, Alcohol, and Drug Advisory Board, and the System Management Advocacy and Resource Team policy board.

Placer Community Foundation will retain up to 15% of these dollars for administrative costs associated with this process.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This expenditure of \$299,000 is included in the Department's FY 2012-13 Proposed Budget. This contract is funded with 100 percent State funding and no County General fund is required.

This contract is on file with the Clerk of the Board for review.

