

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 Knecht, Interim Director, Children's System of Care

DATE: February 20, 2007

SUBJECT: Cooperative Agreement with Placer County Office of Education to Provide Mental Health Services for Severely Emotionally Disturbed Children

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve the attached FY 2006-07 cooperative agreement with Placer County Office of Education (PCOE) in the amount of \$1,990,995 to jointly meet the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and state/county mental health mandates to provide mental health services for severely emotionally disturbed children.

BACKGROUND:

This is the second year for this cooperative agreement between HHS' Children's System of Care (CSOC) and PCOE through which PCOE ensures that mental health services are provided for severely emotionally disturbed youth who cannot succeed in regular schools and for whom educational counseling and school guidance services do not meet the educational needs of the student. Mental health staff and education staff from both agencies work as a team in these programs to provide education, therapy, and supervision.

During FY 2005-06, CSOC provided special education classrooms and mental health outpatient services to approximately 380 children, and day rehabilitation services to 86 children. Approximately 70% of the children are able to transfer back to their home school.

The state mandates that county mental health programs be responsible for the provision of mental health services to the severely emotionally disturbed population. However, a portion of the funding for these services is allocated to PCOE under its mandate to provide special education services under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Under this agreement, PCOE will pass through the IDEA funding for mental health services to the County to provide partial funding for day rehabilitative and outpatient mental health services at three (3) special education locations.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total cost of this program is \$5.7 million. Program funding includes state mental health funds in the amount \$1.7 million, Medi-Cal and state matching funds in the amount of \$1.6 million, state foster care funding of \$196,000 and realignment funding in the amount of \$275,000. The remaining funding of \$2 million will be from PCOE federal, state and local education funds. Based on these funding arrangements, the County is able to provide over \$5 million in children's mental health services for severely emotionally disturbed students. The County match of \$275,000 referenced above will be recoverable through the SB-90 mandate claim.

As in years past we may experience a delay in reimbursement of these costs through the state SB-90 mandate claiming process. This year's SB-90 claim amount is estimated to be \$700,000. Absent this agreement, the county's liability for SB-90 mandate claim reimbursement would be greater. All funds associated with this agreement have been included in the department's FY 2006-07 budget and there is no additional impact on the county General Fund.

The following Agreement for:

**PCOE-Staff & Operations for Day
Rehabilitation Programs and Provision
of Mental Health Services within Placer
County Students' Individualized
Education Programs**

is on file with the Clerk of the Board
for BOS meeting:

February 20, 2007