

**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, M.S., Director of Children's System of Care

**DATE:** June 8, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Umbrella Contract for Payment of Mental Health Private Network Providers

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**ACTION REQUESTED:**

The Board is requested to take the following actions:

- a. Approve a maximum payment authorization ("umbrella contract") to facilitate payment to Systems of Care (SOC) mental health private network providers,
- b. Authorize the Auditor-Controller's Office to establish a payment ceiling in an amount not to exceed \$700,000 for the period from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011, and
- c. Authorize Health and Human Services to amend the list of providers as necessary.

The required match for these mandated services includes \$160,000 in County General Funds. These costs are included in the Department's FY 2010-11 Proposed Budget.

**BACKGROUND:**

Counties are mandated by the Federal and State government to provide critically needed behavioral health treatment such as crisis family counseling to children and families. To meet this mandate, Placer County employs a nationally recognized model that utilizes a network of private counselors, therapists and psychologists, to maximize the availability of necessary specialty services while limiting the need for more costly hospitalization and residential care.

This network of providers delivers intensive mental health services to nearly 950 children and adults each year that has led to better outcomes for families and at lower cost to the County. These services have been used to help children remain in the home and in school, and assist adults to avoid hospitalization.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Expenditures under this contract will not exceed \$700,000. This amount represents a decrease of \$200,000 (22 percent) from last year's contract. This efficiency is the result of shortened treatment episodes, using group models, in lieu of individual models, and by connecting some clients with community based services. Funding for these services includes \$540,000 in Federal and State funds, and a required County General Fund match of \$160,000. These expenditures are included the Department's FY 2010-2011 Proposed Budget.

