

**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:** February 8, 2011

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

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**ACTION REQUESTED:**

The Board is requested to approve contracts to conduct community grant making activities including soliciting, awarding, and administering mental health grants from January 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012, and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign the resulting contracts as follows:

- a. Placer Community Foundation, in the amount of \$355,174, and
- b. Truckee Tahoe Community Foundation in the amount of \$152,218.

**BACKGROUND:**

Since 2006, Placer County's Adult and Children's systems of care have effectively utilized State mental health funds to improve the lives of more than 7,000 residents each year. A critical outcome for these individuals is their increased connection to their natural community supports resulting in less reliance on County staff and services. In addition, outcomes data shows a 94 percent reduction in homelessness, 57 percent reduction in stays in locked psychiatric facilities, 61 percent reduction in acute psychiatric stays, and 31 percent increase in independent living.

Placer County's System of Care continues to utilize State mental health funds to build upon the County's nationally known blended services model to develop services through a shared partnership with community non-profit and private partners. A coalition of community agencies including the County Office of Education, local community non-profit organizations, and the Probation Department has identified a community grant making process as the next best step in creating a consumer- and family-driven service model. The State Dept. of Mental Health has approved this plan, and concurs that this strategy is the most culturally appropriate method for use of these dollars, and further reduces the stigma and cost associated with traditional treatment approaches.

These contractors will provide small grants of \$500 to \$10,000 each to grassroots organizations that already have existing support and service relationships with vulnerable County residents. This funding will build 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 2,500 residents. These new contracts will 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.

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

These contracts are for the purchase of professional services and may be exempt from competitive solicitation in accordance with Purchasing Policy Section 1.3(a).

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Total expenditures of \$507,392 include 100 percent State funds. Funding of \$253,696 is included in the Department's FY 2010-11 Final Budget, and \$253,696 will be included in the Department's FY 2011-12 Base Budget. No County General Fund match is required.

These contracts are on file with the Clerk of the Board for review.

