

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: September 27, 2011

SUBJECT: Block Grant Application to the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for FY 2011-12

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve submission of an application for renewal of the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Community Mental Health Services Block Grant for FY 2011-12 in the amount of \$686,330, and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign the application and all documentation, reports, and certifications as required.

BACKGROUND:

The Community Mental Health Services Block Grant has funded services to children, adults, and older adults with serious mental illness in Placer County for the past 17 years. This Federal grant is a joint application used by the Adult and Children's Systems of Care to effectively deliver a variety of services.

The Children's System of Care uses this funding to provide counseling, social skills training, and peer support for 200 youth who are in or at risk of entry to foster care. These youth are subsequently better able to manage their life challenges, maintain independence and self-sufficiency, and become contributing young adults, free from government-run programs.

The Adult System of Care, in collaboration with the Alliance for the Mentally Ill – Housing, utilizes this funding to provide secure stable housing to adults and seniors with serious mental illness such as bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, and other severe conditions. County staff also provide supportive services such as psychiatric assessment, referral, counseling, and assistance with applications for related services such as veteran's and Social Security benefits. This support aids clients in improving skills that allow them to live independently and become financially stable, while reducing the need for costly inpatient hospital services. In FY 2010-11, 75 adults received such assistance.

The County's Mental Health, Alcohol, and Drug Advisory Board reviewed and recommended this application for approval at its regular meeting on August 23, 2011.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Total expenditures of \$686,330 include 100 percent Federal funds. These funds are included in the Department's FY 2011-12 Final Budget. No County General Funds are required.

The Block Grant Application is on file with the Clerk of the Board for review.

