

**MEMORANDUM**  
**PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
**Children's System of Care**

**TO:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Jeffrey S. Brown, M.P.H., M.S.W., Director of Health and Human Services  
Richard S. Knecht, Director of Children's System of Care

**DATE:** September 9, 2014

**SUBJECT:** Community Mental Health Services Block Grant Application for FY 2014-15

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**ACTION REQUESTED:**

1. Approve submission of an application for renewal of the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant for FY 2014-15 in the amount of \$698,314 (no net County cost), and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign the application and all documentation, reports, and certifications as required.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Federal 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 20 years (previously Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Community Mental Health Services Block Grant).

The Children's System of Care utilizes \$574,348 of this funding to provide counseling, social skills training, and peer support services. Last year, over 200 youth who were in, or at risk of entry into foster care received assistance under this grant. Many of these youth would have otherwise required expensive hospital-based care.

The Adult System of Care, in collaboration with the Alliance for the Mentally Ill Housing, utilizes \$123,966 of 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 support services such as psychiatric assessment, referrals and counseling. 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 2012-13, 67 adults received assistance, of which 45 successfully obtained stable housing.

The County's Mental Health, Alcohol, and Drug Advisory Board reviewed and recommended this application for approval at its regular meeting on August 25, 2014.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

These Federal revenues and their associated expenditures are included in the Department's FY 2014-15 Proposed Budget. No matching County General Funds are required.

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

