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County of Orange Mental Health Services Act Plan Update for FY 2018/2019

Santa Ana, Calif. (June 1, 2018) – During a County of Orange Board of Supervisors meeting on May 22, the Board approved the *Orange County Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Plan Update FY 2018/2019*, directing staff to execute updates that include adding 58 MHSA-related positions to the Health Care Agency (HCA). The County’s estimated year-end balance, as of June 30, 2018, is \$81 million, with no funds subject to reversion to the State of California.

The FY 2018-19 annual update to the County’s three-year MHSA program and expenditure plan is a comprehensive look at all of the County’s MHSA programs, budgets and outcomes from the previous fiscal year. It was developed through an extensive process of seeking community input and feedback, enabling HCA to make recommendations for modifying current MHSA program budgets or creating new mental health programs where a need or gap in services was identified.

“The process of getting feedback throughout the MHSA planning process is vital, and I look forward to increasing involvement from the Board and from various community members moving forward,” said Chairman Andrew Do, First District Supervisor. “Through the County’s management and oversight of our MHSA program, I’m proud that we have zero funds subject to reversion to the State.”

The *Orange County Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Plan Update FY 2018/2019* is organized according to the five funding components defined in the Mental Health Services Act: Community Services and Supports (CSS), Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI), Innovation, Workforce Education and Training (WET), and Capital Facilities and Technology Needs (CFTN).

Notable changes or additions to the three-year plan as a result of the update are listed below, according to the related funding component areas:

CSS

- Peer mentoring programs were expanded, adding funding and 30 positions to support individuals in several new tracks, including individuals of all ages receiving services in County outpatient clinics; homeless adults eligible for Whole Person Care; and adults served in the Senate Bill 82 Triage Grant program that expires on June 30, 2018.
- A new Correctional Health Services, Jail to Community Re-Entry program was added along with 28 positions to provide comprehensive discharge planning and linkage to BHS with a goal of reducing recidivism.

PEI

- PEI funds that were subject to reversion to the State, per Assembly Bill (AB) 114, were approved to be spent out across existing County PEI programs during FY 2018-19.



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Innovation

- Innovation funds that were subject to reversion to the State were approved to be spent out on existing and, if applicable, newly approved County projects in a manner that maximally protects funds from reversion per Assembly Bill (AB) 114.
- HCA is developing two mental health-focused technology projects aimed at increasing access to services: (1) a proposal to join a cross-county collaborative Mental Health Technology Solutions MHSAs Innovation project aimed at decreasing stigma and increasing access to mental health services, and, subject to Board and Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) approval: (2) an integrated application that may include, but would not be limited to, matching individuals to existing housing in real-time and providing transportation assistance, automated alerts and reminders, education, resources and technical assistance.

CFTN

- \$9 million of CSS funding was transferred for the purchase of the Anita Property for a co-located services project.
- \$200,000 of CSS funding was transferred for renovations to a building for Youth Core Services Program.
- In addition, \$3,756,082 of CSS funding was transferred to Technological Needs to continue implementation of the BHS Electronic Health Record.

“The Anita Building will help fill a critical gap in our system of care by providing a campus to offer mental health and drug treatment services,” said Supervisor Todd Spitzer, whose Third District includes the Anita Property.

“Delivering mental health services is a priority for the County, and the expansion of mental health counselors in both our community and the jails is a response to the growing need and demands for these types of services,” said Supervisor Shawn Nelson, Fourth District.

“The County is working to address homelessness by expanding our correctional programs, dedicating more staff to work with the population and increasing funds for permanent supportive housing. The County has never reverted MHSAs funding back to the State and will continue to ensure we wisely spend taxpayer dollars to create a robust mental health system,” said Supervisor Lisa Bartlett, Fifth District.

A three-year program and expenditure plan and annual updates are required, per California Welfare and Institutions Code §5847 and §5848, to be adopted by the County Board of Supervisors prior to submission to the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission and State Department of Health Care Services.

California voters passed the MHSAs, known as Proposition 63, in November 2004. The act placed a 1% state tax on individual income over \$1 million to expand and improve voluntary mental health programs. More details about the County’s MHSAs Program and funding are available as part of the Orange County [MHSAs Fact Sheet](#) and on the [HCA MHSAs webpage](#).

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