



C A L I F O R N I A D E P A R T M E N T O F

Mental Health

1600 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 654-2309

November 3, 2006

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 06-13

TO: LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS
LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM CHIEFS
LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATORS
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
CHAIRPERSONS, LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH BOARDS

SUBJECT: ALLOWABLE USE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES AND SUPPORTS
FUNDING FOR ENHANCEMENT OF LOCAL
INFRASTRUCTURE

REFERENCE WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE (WIC) SECTIONS 5847(a)
AND (b), 5848(c), AND DMH LETTER NO. 05-05.

The purpose of this State Department of Mental Health (DMH) Information Notice is to provide guidance to the County Mental Health Programs (Counties¹) regarding the use of MHSAs funds to coordinate activities in support of a fully Integrated Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan (Integrated Plan), as required in WIC 5847(a) and (b). It clarifies that funds distributed for the initial Three-Year Plan may be used for such coordination efforts.

WIC Sections 5847(a) and (d), respectively, require the Counties to prepare and submit an Integrated Plan. The Integrated Plan is composed of six components: Community Services & Supports (CSS), Education and Training, Capital Facilities/Technological Needs, Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) and Innovation for CSS, and PEI. WIC Section 5848(c) directs DMH to establish the requirements of the Integrated Plan. DMH is developing and releasing the requirements of each component separately, through the regulatory process, with the goal of moving the Counties toward a single Integrated Plan, as required by statute.

DMH released guidelines for the first component, the CSS. The guidelines were released through DMH Letter No. 05-05, dated August 1, 2005.

In order to further support the Counties in their efforts toward developing and implementing fully Integrated Plans, this letter clarifies that Counties are allowed to use unexpended CSS

¹ Unless specified, "County" refers to County Mental Health Programs, two or more counties acting jointly, and/or city-operated programs, pursuant to WIC 5701.5.

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funds² for the expenses of coordinating the following components: Information Technology/Technology Needs, Capital Facilities, Education and Training, and CSS Innovation. These expenditures must be determined by DMH to be consistent with the implementation of the CSS component of each individual County's Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan, as approved by DMH. Examples of such expenditures include (but are not limited to) a housing coordinator, training coordinator, and information technology planning and assessment consultants. Expenditures by Counties and their contract providers are allowable. No separate subsequent application or approval process is required.

This clarification is intended as an initial strategy to assist Counties in coordinating the development of their fully Integrated Plans.

If you have any questions about this DMH Information Notice, please contact your County Operations liaison listed on Enclosure 1.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

STEPHEN W. MAYBERG, Ph.D.
Director

Enclosure

² This is limited to the CSS funding within the initial CSS Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan, FY 2005-06, 2006-07, and 2007-08.