



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) 654-3709

July 23, 2008

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 08-19

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

SUBJECT: REVISED PLANNING ESTIMATES (FISCAL YEAR 2008/09) FOR  
THE COMMUNITY SERVICES AND SUPPORTS COMPONENT  
OF THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT

REFERENCE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MHSA, WELFARE AND  
INSTITUTIONS CODE (WIC) SECTION 5847, 5848, AND 5892

This Department of Mental Health (DMH) Information Notice transmits the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) revised Planning Estimates<sup>1</sup> for the fiscal year (FY) 2008/09 Community Services and Supports (CSS) component of the integrated Three-Program and Expenditure Plan. Because actual revenues received in the Mental Health Services Fund exceeded what was previously estimated and a greater portion of overall revenues are dedicated to CSS beginning in FY 2008/09 pursuant to WIC Section 5892(a), the planning estimates for FY 08/09 are revised. An additional \$96.1 million is being made available to the Counties<sup>2</sup> participating in the MHSA to support the CSS component during FY 2008/09. Thus, the aggregate statewide FY 2008/09 funding level for CSS is being increased from \$553.9 million to a total of \$650.0 million.

To receive the additional CSS funding for FY 2008/09, counties should follow the process outlined in DMH Information Notice 08-10 and modified by DMH Information Notice 08-16. Subject to DMH approval, counties will receive funding for the CSS component in FY 2008/09 up to the amount listed in Enclosure 1, entitled "Revised Annual FY 2008/09 CSS Planning Estimates."

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<sup>1</sup> Planning Estimates are the estimates provided by the Department to each county as to the maximum amount of MHSA funding by component that the County can request through its Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan.

<sup>2</sup> "County" means the County Mental Health Department, two or more County Mental Health Departments acting jointly, and/or city-operated programs receiving funds per WIC Section 5701.5 (California Code of Regulations, Section 3200.090).

The Planning Estimates for the increase in CSS funding are based on the previously used methodology updated with the most current information from state or national databases. The Planning Estimates include the following factors that have been weighted:

1. The need for mental health services in each County based on:
  - a. Total Population of each County on January 1, 2008 as reported by the State of California, Department of Finance, *E-1 City / County Population Estimates, with Annual percent Change, January 1, 2007 and 2008*. Sacramento, California, May 2008.
  - b. Population Most Likely to Apply for Services, which represents the sum of:
    - 1) The poverty population as defined as households with incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level as reported in the 2000 U.S. Census Bureau survey updated to reflect the 2008 population, and
    - 2) The uninsured population (persons who did not have insurance at any time in the past year and persons who had insurance only part of the past year) with incomes above 200% of the federal poverty level as reported through the 2005 California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) based at UCLA Center for Health Policy Research in Los Angeles, California.
  - c. Population Most Likely to Access Services, which represents the prevalence of mental illness among different age groups and ethnic populations of poverty households in each County as estimated through a study conducted by Dr. Charles Holzer, Ph.D. in 2000. The 2000 results were updated to reflect the 2008 population.
2. Adjustments to the need for mental health services in each County based on:
  - a. The cost of being self-sufficient in each County relevant to the statewide average as reported through *The Self-Sufficiency Standard for California 2003*, December 2003, a project of the National Economic Development and Law Center. A weighted average of households with one single childless adult (67%) and a single adult with two children (33%) was used to develop the adjustment.
  - b. The available resources provided either by or through the Department of Mental Health to each County in FY 2007/08, including realignment funding, State General Fund managed care allocations, other State General Fund Community Services allocations (such as AB3632 funding), federal SAMHSA block grants, federal PATH grants, FY 2004/05 Early and Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) State General Funds, and the FY 2007/08 CSS Planning Estimates from DMH Letter No.: 06-09. (Medi-Cal federal financial participation is excluded.)

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To provide a base level of funding for less populous counties, from the additional \$96.1 million available for CSS in FY 2008/09, a minimum CSS Planning Estimate of \$150,000 is available to each County with a population of less than 20,000 and a minimum CSS Planning Estimate of \$250,000 is available to all other counties.

The Planning Estimates for the two city-operated programs (Tri-City and the City of Berkeley) are based solely on the percent of statewide population in the area served by each city in 2007.<sup>3</sup>

If you have any further questions, please contact your County Operations liaison identified on the following internet site: [http://www.dmh.ca.gov/Provider\\_Info/default.asp](http://www.dmh.ca.gov/Provider_Info/default.asp).

Sincerely,

Original signed by

STEPHEN W. MAYBERG, Ph.D.  
Director

Enclosure

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<sup>3</sup> The City of Berkeley serves the cities of Berkeley and Albany, and Tri-City serves the cities of Claremont, La Verne and Pomona.