



INTEROFFICE MEMO

DATE: December 9, 2013

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FROM: *CaSonya Thomas*
CaSONYA THOMAS, DIRECTOR
Department of Behavioral Health

TO: **MEMBERS**
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SUBJECT: POSTING OF THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA) INNOVATION PLAN

The purpose of this memo is to provide information to the Board of Supervisors regarding the posting of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA, the Act), 2014 Innovation (INN) Plan. This plan posting to the County of San Bernardino Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) Intranet and Internet sites meets the required 30-day public comment and review period in accordance with Welfare and Institutions Code 5848.

BACKGROUND:

The MHSA provides for the Innovation Component of the County's Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan (Three-Year Plan). Pursuant to the Act, Part 3.2, and DMH information notice 09-02, funding under this component is to be used to increase access to underserved groups, increase the quality of services, and increase access to services.

Innovations are defined as novel, creative and/or ingenious mental health practices/approaches that are expected to contribute to learning, which are developed within communities through a process that is inclusive and representative, especially of unserved and underserved individuals and which are aligned with the General Standards identified in the MHSA and set forth in Title 9 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 3320.

The Innovation Component allows Counties the opportunity to "tryout" new approaches that can inform current and future mental health practices/approaches.

CURRENT STATUS/IMPLEMENTATION:

Prior to the implementation of the plan, a local review process must take place which includes a 30-day public comment and review period. This Innovation Plan will be available for viewing on the DBH Intranet and Internet websites from December 9, 2013, through January 9, 2014. Upon completion of the 30-day public review, all public input will be considered and the documents adjusted to reflect any substantive changes resulting from feedback received. A public hearing will take place on February 6, 2014, at the Behavioral Health Commission for a formal review of the community planning process.

The Department of Behavioral Health is using this opportunity to implement one (1) new Innovation Project upon approval from the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC).

Should you have additional questions or need further information regarding the submission of the MHSA Innovation Plan for the County of San Bernardino, please contact my office. Thank you for your continued support!

cc: Gregory C. Devereaux, Chief Executive Officer
Linda Haugan, Assistant Executive Officer, Human Services
Sydney Flood, Administrative Analyst
Members, Behavioral Health Commission
MHSA Community Policy Advisory Committee
Executive Management Team, Department of Behavioral Health
Cindi Burklow, President, Association of Community Based Organizations
Susanne Kulesa, MHSA Coordinator, Department of Behavioral Health