

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO CALIFORNIA

For the Agenda of:
June 17, 2008

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Department of Health and Human Services

Subject: Report Back On Mental Health Division Use Of Electro-Convulsive Therapy and Mental Health Board Budget Committee Recommendations

Contact: Lynn Frank, Director, 875-2002

BACKGROUND

The Board requested a report back on the use and cost of Electro-Convulsive Therapy (ECT), and on the budget reductions recommended by the Mental Health Board Budget Committee.

DISCUSSION

Concern regarding use of Electro-Convulsive Therapy (ECT)

The current contract for ECT is \$70,000. The Mental Health Treatment Center Medical Director, Martin Leamon, MD, has described the clinical necessity for ECT and the authorization process in the attached letter.

Mental Health Board (MHB) Budget Committee Recommendations

The MHB Budget Committee convened to create a list of recommended budget reductions to be considered by the MH Division and the MHB. The Committee did not have a target reduction figure but was advised by the MH Director that the Division would create an internal county reduction list in order to minimize the impact on provider reductions.

The Mental Health Division carefully reviewed and considered the MHB Budget Committee recommendations. Difficult choices were made in light of the Division's required \$5 million reduction and the Budget Committees list of \$690,192. The Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) conservatorship reduction was not placed on the list since that program was already targeted for reduction by the DHHS Seniors and Adults Division. Child and Family Mental Health Residential patches were not placed on the list since there was already a reduction of \$798,310 in Child and Family hospitalization and placements. The UCD Cultural Consultation Service was not considered since this service provides cultural consultation to MH Providers across the system of care.

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There was a great deal of testimony about the \$100,000 reduction in funding to the Mental Health Association (MHA). The MHA is not a mandate. DHHS did not tell the MHA what to reduce only that the \$100,000 reduction was necessary out of their \$807,893 total contract with DHHS. The Mental Health Division did suggest that perhaps the \$100,000 could be taken out of the Mental Health Adult portion of their contract, \$364,238.

Ultimately, the MH Division reduction list was developed based on a systems perspective that prioritized the service needs across the system of care for our target population.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:
TERRY SCHUTTEN
County Executive

LYNN FRANK, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

By: _____
PENELOPE CLARKE, Administrator
Countywide Services Agency