

**County of Santa Clara**  
**Board of Supervisors**  
Supervisorial District Three  
Supervisor Dave Cortese



BOSD301a 06-17-09

Prepared by: Mike Donohoe  
Board Aide

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THIS RELATES TO  
6/17/09 Item No. 81  
Supplemental Information No.  
2

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: *Dave Cortese* AP  
Dave Cortese  
Supervisor, District 3

SUBJECT: REVISED: Restore \$391,000 to the Mental Health Department for mental health services to uninsured children.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Consider recommendations relating to financing for the following programs serving uninsured children in the County of Santa Clara:

- a) restore \$391,000 to the Mental Health Department to serve as gap financing until the MHD can secure MHA funding for this program.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

There is a one time cost to the General Fund of \$391,000.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

The cuts in the Mental Health Department have created a hole in the coverage of uninsured

children. The Mental Health Department is currently working on their MHSA funded planning process to review and possibly restructure their children's system of care so that these services can be funded with MHSA monies.

During this gap period we can not allow uninsured children to be at risk from mental health issues. Mental Health issues are affecting all children. The recent incidents of suicide in Palo Alto underscore how important this program is. Uninsured children can not be left vulnerable.

## **BACKGROUND**

At the Board Budget meeting on Monday we heard from Nancy Pena that this gap existed. Community members have spoken up about the importance of this. We have gone over the supplemental information that has been provided by Kim Roberts and believe that this is the most effective means of making sure there is adequate funding to bridge the gap between the start of FY2010 and the time MHD needs to access MHSA funds for this program.