

County of Santa Clara
Social Services Agency
Department of Fiscal & Administrative Services
Financial Management Services



SSA02 051909

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DATE: May 19, 2009

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: 
Will Lightbourne
Agency Director, Social Services Agency

SUBJECT: Approve Appropriation Modification for the CalWORKs Mental Health and Substance Abuse Program

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve Request for Appropriation Modification No. 185 - \$398,661 increasing revenue and expenditures in the Social Services Agency (SSA) Budget, BU 501, within the CalWORKs Mental Health and Substance Abuse Program, and increasing reimbursement and expenditures in the Department of Drug and Alcohol Services Budget, BU 417, in the amount of \$384,452 and Mental Health Budget, BU 412, in the amount of \$14,209.

(4/5 Roll Call Vote)

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no negative impact to the General Fund as a result of this action.

Assembly Bill 1542 dedicated an annual state budget appropriation for prevention and treatment of mental health and substance abuse services for CalWORKs clients. The County FY 2009 budget process was completed prior to receiving final state notification of the final CalWORKs Mental Health and Substance Abuse Program (MH/SA) budget. The County established the FY 2009 MH/SA budget at \$2,967,027. The final state approved MH/SA funding allocation was \$3,134,755 and the County recognized the additional ongoing funding of \$167,728 during the County FY 2009 Mid-Year Budget Request process.

On February 10, 2009, the state increased the CalWORKs MH/SA funding for Santa Clara County by \$398,661 for a total allocation of \$3,533,416. The Agency is requesting approval to recognize the ongoing additional revenue of \$398,661 and increase the CalWORKs MH/SA expenditure appropriation accordingly. The ongoing funds will be recognized in the appropriate Cost Center and General Ledger Accounts (GLA's) as detailed in the attached Appropriation Modification.

CONTRACT HISTORY

The CalWORKs Mental Health and Substance Abuse Program is a partnership between the Santa Clara County Social Services Agency and the Santa Clara Valley Health and Hospital Systems' Department of Alcohol and Drug Services (DADS) and the Department of Mental Health (DMH).

Through a Memorandum of Understanding and an Intra-County Agreement, DADS contracts with community based organizations to provide behavioral health services to CalWORKs clients and their families. Contracts for services have been in place with Catholic Charities and Gardner Family Care since 2000, and contracts with Asian Americans for Community Involvement, Asian American Recovery Services, and ARH have been in place since 2001. The contracts are reviewed annually, and performance expectations have been achieved since the initial funding of these organizations.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Approval of the recommended action will allow the Department of Alcohol and Drug Services to modify existing contracts to reflect an increased level of services to CalWORKs clients and their families in need of mental health and substance abuse counseling and treatment. The recommended action will enable the community-based organizations to provide additional universal screening services for CalWORKs Employment Services clients with behavioral health problems (alcohol, drugs, mental health and/or domestic abuse). The augmented funding will enable ARH to add one bed at their House on the Hill facility, for a total of four beds, to further serve women with substance abuse problems and their children.

BACKGROUND

During the past nine years, the Health Alliance has provided behavioral health services to CalWORKs clients with a work requirement. These services are designed to help clients obtain and maintain employment, or participate successfully in required activities to achieve compliance with the stricter CalWORKs' work participation requirements.

The Health Alliance serves more than 600 clients a year, and the number of clients will continue to increase due to the implementation of universal screening requirements.

Many of the services provided for CalWORKs clients are outpatient counseling. All the outpatient program providers offer services at their own sites and at various co-location sites in the community, CWES offices, adult education schools, and community colleges. These services allow clients to receive counseling at their place of education or vocational training.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Negative action will prevent the Agency from utilizing the additional state funding allocated to supplement mental health services for CalWORKs clients.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The Clerk of the Board's Office is requested to send Keyboard notification of completed processing to Jeanne Gonzales, Social Services Agency (SSA), Financial Management Services (FMS).

ATTACHMENTS

- F85 MH/SA - SSA