



A Tradition of Stewardship  
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 5/10/2011

Agenda Placement: 7K

## NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Shelli Brobst for Randolph F. Snowden - Director  
Health & Human Services  
**REPORT BY:** Shelli Brobst, Contracts Analyst - 253-4720  
**SUBJECT:** Actions regarding the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA)

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

Director of Health and Human Services requests approval of the following actions regarding the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA):

1. Adoption of a resolution authorizing the County's participation in CalMHSA to jointly develop and fund prevention and early intervention mental health services and education programs as determined on a regional, statewide or other basis;
2. Approval of the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement, as amended in 2010, governing operations of CalMHSA;
3. Authorization for the County's Mental Health Director to sign the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement on behalf of the County;
4. Authorization for the County's Mental Health Director to act as the County's representative on the CalMHSA Board of Directors; and
5. Authorization for the County's Mental Health Director to pay the application fee to participate in CalMHSA.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Approval of this action will allow the County to participate in the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) to support prevention and early intervention efforts addressing suicide prevention, stigma and discrimination related to mental illness and to support student mental health initiatives.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact?                      No

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

## **BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

The California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) was established for the purpose of allowing its members to jointly develop and fund mental health services and education programs as determined on a regional, statewide or other basis. Such programs may include but are not limited to:

- a. addressing suicide prevention;
- b. ethnic and cultural outreach;
- c. stigma and discrimination related to mental illness;
- d. student mental health and workforce training and education; and
- e. the provision of necessary administrative services, which may include but are not limited to establishing a depository for research materials and information regarding "best practices."

The California Department of Mental Health (DMH) supported the development of a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) creating CalMHSA for the administration of a statewide MHSA project on Training, Technical Assistance and Capacity Building. Article 1, Chapter 5, Division 7, Title 1 of the California Government Code (the "Joint Exercise of Powers Act," Government Code section 6500 et seq.) permits two or more public agencies by agreement to exercise jointly powers common to the contracting parties. The governing documents of the CalMHSA are the Joint Powers Agreement of the Authority (Agreement), its Bylaws, and the Participation Agreement for each program developed. CalMHSA will enter into contracts on behalf of member counties that have assigned Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Statewide Program Funds (and any other assigned funds) to the JPA for implementation and administration of these programs. Napa County's initial focus will be participation in a regional suicide prevention project with other San Francisco Bay area counties.

Through the joint efforts of counties, local needs can be identified and connected with similar local needs in different regions of the state, and resources can be maximized. Instead of individual counties developing multiple requests for proposals and provider contracts, the Authority can negotiate cost effective rates with subcontractors on a statewide basis and greatly reduce overhead costs. Counties can centralize compliance with reporting requirements, resulting in cost avoidance. The Authority can house, share and disseminate research, information and cost-effective strategies. A JPA also allows for counties to act in a coordinated manner on MHSA funding and programmatic issues with the Legislature, the Department of Mental Health, the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission and other parties regarding this vital source of funding for county mental health services.

To date more than 30 California counties have signed the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement creating CalMHSA. Each member county has a representative on the CalMHSA Board of Directors and has the authority to attend, participate in and vote on actions of the JPA. The recommended action approves Napa County's participation in CalMHSA through the JPA and authorizes the Mental Health Director to sign the JPA agreement, act as the County's representative on the CalMHSA Board of Directors, and authorize payment of the \$500 application fee.

A copy of the JPA (as amended June 20, 2010) and Bylaws are on file with the Clerk of the Board.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

A . Resolution

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Karen Collins