NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: JoAnn Melgar for Jennifer Yasumoto - Director
Health & Human Services Administration
REPORT BY: JoAnn Melgar, Staff Services Analyst II - 707-253-4722
SUBJECT: Revenue Agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services Community Mental
Health Services Block Grant (MHBG)

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Health and Human Services requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign a revenue
agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services for a maximum of $629,592 for the term July 1,
2018 through June 30, 2019 for Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG) funds to provide mental
health services to individuals with serious mental illness and substance abuse issues.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Approval of the recommended action will allow the County to accept California Department of Health Care Services
(DHCS) Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG) funds in the amount of $629,592. These
funds provide for mental health services to individuals with serious mental illness and substance abuse issues.

While staff received the initial allocation letter for this award in November 2018, DHCS did not approve the final
budget until April 2019.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? Yes
Is it currently budgeted? Yes
Where is it budgeted? Health & Human Services Mental Health- Mental Health Block Grant
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary? Discretionary
Discretionary Justification: This action is discretionary in that HHSA is not required to apply for or accept this funding. The California Department of Health Care Services has awarded Napa County funding for its ongoing Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Mental Health Community Services Block Grant (MHBG).

Is the general fund affected? No

Future fiscal impact: This agreement terminates on June 30, 2019 and is included in the approved Fiscal Year 2018-2019 budget.

Consequences if not approved: If not approved, current and future SAMHSA MHBG funding from DHCS would be in jeopardy. Resources for services to individuals with serious mental illness and substance use issues would be drastically reduced.

Additional Information:

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 Napa County Health and Human Services Agency’s (HHSA) Mental Health Division has applied for and received approval from the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for its ongoing Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG) funding allocation. The purpose of this grant is to establish or expand community-based systems of care to provide mental health services to individuals with serious mental illness and substance abuse issues.

For Fiscal Year 2018-2019, the HHSA Mental Health Division received an initial allocation of $629,592, which consists of three components: a Base Allocation of $357,856, a Dual Diagnosis set-aside of $69,089 and a First Episode Psychosis (FEP) set-aside of $202,647. These allocations are being used to fund the following projects within the HHSA Mental Health Division:

1. Utilize the MHBG Base allocation to provide:
   - Supportive housing services and short-term crisis residential services for seriously mentally ill adults in Napa County to prevent or reduce institutional usage. The HHSA Mental Health Division will do this through contracts with two community-based organizations, Mentis (Satellite Housing program) and Buckelew (Buckelew Supportive Living Program (SLP)), who will provide the direct services. SAMHSA MHBG Base Allocation funding will be used to fully fund operational costs of the supportive housing services provided by Mentis and partially fund staffing costs at Buckelew SLP to ensure the completion of annual client assessments and provide on-call staff to augment services for those in their program that are struggling to make progress towards their program goals. The target population for both programs is adults with a serious mental illness (SMI) who are at risk of inpatient psychiatric hospitalization and/or discharging from an institutional setting back into the community; and
   - Supportive forensic specialty mental health services to individuals involved with the Napa County’s Public Defender’s Office through a designated Mental Health Counselor. This designated staff will
case-find and follow-up with an often-reluctant client population, assess the needs of individuals served, counsel individuals with behavioral health issues and their significant others as appropriate, and make referrals to resources and services. This designated staff will work collaboratively with other involved agencies, including Probation, Alcohol and Drug Services, etc., and with other members of the HHSA Mental Health Division’s Forensic Mental Health team to coordinate services; and provide information, resources and consultation to attorneys in the Public Defender’s Office regarding the behavioral health needs of the clients they serve. Additionally, this designated staff will provide formal training in behavioral health issues to Public Defender staff as requested. The target population for the Forensic Mental Health Service are SMI adults 18 years of age and above who are involved with the Napa County Public Defender’s Office.

» (New for FY 2018-2019) Supportive mental health outreach and engagement services to individuals in need through designated HHSA Mental Health Division staff. Services will be provided in key community areas including but not limited to: community and family resource centers, court and community schools, and community based health care providers. Designated staff will work collaboratively to coordinate services, make referrals for ongoing specialty mental health services (SMHS), provide brief interventions, and provide information, resources, and consultation to community providers regarding the behavioral health needs of the individuals they serve. The target populations for Community Outreach and Engagement are children, adults, older adults and families at risk of SED or SMI.

2. Utilize the MHBG Dual Diagnosis allocation to assist individuals with co-occurring mental health and alcohol and drug disorders to receive services designed to reduce immediate harm to themselves and others and to assist them to stabilize. The HHSA Mental Health Division will accomplish this by funding a Mental Health Counselor position to provide outreach, engagement, assessment, brief “in-the-moment” supportive counseling, and referral services to individuals identified as having co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders. These services are provided 20 hours per week. This designated staff is trained in program criteria for both mental health and substance abuse programs and will make referrals and assist with “warm handoffs” to these programs as appropriate. This position is embedded within the Napa Police Department. The target population for the SAMHSA Dual Diagnosis MHBG is adults identified as having or suspected of having co-occurring disorders.

3. Utilize the MHBG FEP funding to support evidence-based programs that address the needs of individuals with early Severe Mental Illness (SMI), including FEP. The HHSA Mental Health Division will accomplish this:
   » Through a contract with Aldea Children and Family Services (Aldea). The goal of Aldea’s EDAPT Supported Outreach and Access to Resources (SOAR) program is to reduce the negative outcomes that may result from untreated psychotic illness through early identification and comprehensive treatment of psychosis. Early identification and evidence-based intervention are necessary and effective steps in reducing the impact of psychosis on affected individuals, their families, and our community. The target population is individuals between the ages of 12 and 28 who meet the criteria for having had a first episode psychosis (FEP) within the last three years or up to five years, if needed. Individuals exhibiting symptoms that are indicative of the following diagnosis: Schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, schizophreniform disorder, psychotic disorder, psychotic disorder NOS, and schizophrenia spectrum disorder. The program will also serve clients diagnosed with bipolar or major depressive disorder but symptoms must include psychosis;
   » By providing opportunities for HHSA Mental Health Division staff and contract providers to attend evidence-based FEP trainings and conferences. The HHSA Mental Health Division has identified its Children and Adult Medication Clinic staff as its focus for training as these staff are usually the point of contact for individuals experiencing FEP and spend the most amount of time providing day-to-day assistance and new clinical case management staff; however, training opportunities will be available to any HHSA Mental Health Division staff who works with the FEP target population; and,
   » (New for FY 2018-2019) By developing and providing trainings to identified community organizations and partner agencies on FEP. The goals of the training are to provide education on what FEP is,
what the signs and symptoms are, best practices related to FEP, and the services available for FEP in the community. The target audience for this training is law enforcement, probation, schools, HHSA Divisions and other community agencies and partners as needed and requested. Trainings will be developed and provided by designated HHSA Mental Health Division staff.

This action requests authorization to accept the SAMHSA MHBG grant funding in the amount of $629,592 for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve
Reviewed By: Ben Guerrieri