MENTAL HEALTH POLICY NO.: 92-04

SUBJECT: Medi-Cal Share of Cost

AUTHORITY: California Department of Health Services; Divisional

SUPERSEDES: Prior Established Practice

According to the Department of Health Services’ Medi-Cal Eligibility Manual, County Mental Health programs or any other providers may apply the cost of services provided towards the client’s share of cost. This includes any and all clinical services, case management services, and medication charges.

Therefore, any Medi-Cal client with a share of cost may have his/her liability met by offsetting Mental Health services. Any additional services provided that month may be billed to Medi-Cal. This has the potential to generate a significant amount of Medi-Cal reimbursement for the Division.

Social Services will send the Share of Cost document (known as a MC-177) to any case manager, upon written request, stating the reason the client is unable to proceed on his/her own (see attached sample request). They will not provide a MC-177 to any administrative staff. Therefore, any case manager with a share of cost client is responsible for obtaining the MC-177 each month and getting a client’s signature. Clients with a share of cost but no case manager, should have a case manager assigned to expedite the MC-177 process. (All case management time spent obtaining the MC-177 is fully chargeable to Medi-Cal.) Administrative staff will be responsible for completing the form, ensuring its’ return to Social Services and submitting a copy to Mental Health Accounting. Full instructions for completing the MC-177 are included in the Administrative Procedures Manual.

Approved: ____________________________
Gale Bataille, Director
Mental Health Services Division