

MHSA HOUSING ASSIGNMENT LETTER

Background

The MHSA Housing Program component of the MHSA was signed into law in May 2006, with the stated goal of creating 10,000 additional units of permanent supportive housing for this population throughout the State. This is a collaborative program administered by the California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA) and the State Department of Mental Health (DMH). Developed in collaboration with the California Mental Health Directors Association and other stakeholders, this program is anticipated to receive MHSA funding for the next 20 years--if successful.

Funding and program requirements were released in August of last year, and applications to the State are being accepted. The Application includes the proposed housing development and a description of/commitment to supportive services. Applications will be submitted jointly by the County and the developer, and reviewed/approved on a project-by-project basis.

In order for a County to be allowed to submit a proposal, an Assignment Letter must be submitted expressly stating the County's agreement to participate in the MHSA Housing Program within the parameters delineated by the State. The County shall also agree that, upon approval of the Letter, the State Fiscal Year 2007/08 Planning Estimate in the amount of \$6,762,000 specified for the MHSA Housing Program be transferred by DMH to CalHFA on behalf of the County. Specifically, funds in the amount specified will be transferred from the Mental Health Services Fund to the State Operations portion of the DMH State budget, item 44440-001-0001 Program 10, State Operations. DMH will transfer these funds to CalHFA for support of the MHSA Housing Program.

The Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Division continues its collaboration with the Department of Housing and the Human Services Agency's Shelter Services (HOPE Plan staff) to plan and implement the MHSA Housing program in San Mateo County.

Subject:

Assignment Letter from DMH to CalHFA on behalf of San Mateo County (attached).

Funds: \$6,762,000 (For information purposes only; no funds are involved in this stage).

Expenditure Proposal: Not applicable. This is an administrative requirement that must be fulfilled prior to submitting an expenditure proposal.

Action taken:

The Mental Health Board released draft for 30-day public comment on April 2nd, 2008. Public comment period will be closed on May 5th, 2008.

How you can provide input:

If you have comments, please send them to: Chris Coppola, BHRS Deputy Director, 225 37th Ave., San Mateo, CA 94403, (650) 573-2038, ccoppola@co.sanmateo.ca.us; or to Sandra Santana-Mora, MHSA Coordinator, 225 37th Ave., San Mateo, CA 94403, (650) 573-2889, ssantana-mora@co.sanmateo.ca.us.

After April 2nd, 2008 this draft proposal will be posted on our website: www.smhealth.org. Please look for the Behavioral Health and Recovery Services link, click on Mental Health Services, and scroll down to the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Homepage link. If you would like to receive a hard copy please contact Chantae Rochester at (650) 573.2544, crochester@co.sanmateo.ca.us.



**SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES DIVISION**

**Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Housing Program
Assignment Letter**

San Mateo County agrees to participate in the State-administered Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Housing Program funded from the Community Services and Supports (CSS) component of the MHSA. The MHSA Housing Program will be jointly administered by the Department of Mental Health (DMH) in conjunction with the California Housing and Finance Agency (CalHFA).

San Mateo County agrees that upon its approval of this Assignment, the State Fiscal Year 2007/08 Planning Estimate in the amount of \$6,762,000 specified for the MHSA Housing Program will be transferred by DMH to CalHFA on behalf of the County. Specifically, funds in the amount specified will be transferred from the Mental Health Services Fund to the State Operations portion of the DMH state budget, item 44440-001-0001 Program 10, State Operations. DMH will transfer these funds to CalHFA for support of the MHSA Housing Program.

CalHFA will hold the funds transferred in a county specific sub-account, invest the funds in an appropriate investment vehicle as determined by CalHFA, and credit the county sub-account with interest received on the investment. The County (and the project sponsor, if applicable) may access MHSA Housing Program funds only through a MHSA Housing Program Application approved by CalHFA and DMH.

CalHFA is responsible for the review of the application for all aspects of the project related to purchase, renovation and/or construction of the housing development; underwriting of loans; disbursement of funds; all determinations regarding the use of operating subsidies for the development; and continued monitoring of the project.

DMH is responsible of the service-related aspects of the application and for monitoring of the project to assure that appropriate supportive housing services continue to be provided.

Nothing shall prohibit the County from using funds from other programs to supplement the MHSA Housing Program funds, subject to requirements that may be applicable to use of such funds. The Assignment shall be effective only if the county has a fully executed MHSA Agreement with DMH.

Approved for County (by signature)
Printed Name and Title: