

**Johnson K. Gill**  
Health Care Agency Director  
VCMC Administrator

**Joan R. Araujo, RN, MHSA**  
Chief Deputy Director  
Hospital Replacement Wing  
Compliance Officer

**Elaine Crandall**  
Behavioral Health Director

**Tara Diller**  
Animal Services Director

**Kim S. Milstien**  
Deputy Director  
VCMC / SPH Chief Executive Officer

**Brighton Ncube**  
Deputy Director  
Ambulatory Care Administrator

**Lawrence Nguyen, MD**  
Interim Chief Medical Examiner

**Dee Pupa**  
Deputy Director  
Managed Care / Patient Accounting  
Health Care Plan Administrator

**Catherine Rodriguez**  
Interim Chief Financial Officer

**Rigoberto Vargas, MPH**  
Public Health Director

October 4, 2016

Board of Supervisors  
County of Ventura  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

**SUBJECT: Approval of and Authorization for the Human Resources Director to Establish 3.0 New Regular Positions in the Ventura County Behavioral Health Mental Health Services Budget Unit 3200-3205 for Children's Mental Health Services, Effective October 9, 2016; Approval of and Authorization for the Ventura County Behavioral Health Director to Agree to Ministerial Modifications to the Scope of Work in the Memorandum of Understanding for Children's Special Education Mental Health Services with Ventura County Office of Education/Special Education Local Area Plan; and Authorization for the Auditor Controller to Process Necessary Accounting Transactions in Budget Unit 3200-3205 (Requires 4/5ths Vote on Recommendation 3).**

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Approval of and authorization for the Human Resources Director to establish 3.0 new regular positions in the Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Mental Health Services (MHL) Budget Unit 3200-3205 to provide children's mental health services, effective October 9, 2016.

Job Code	Classification/ Description	Budget Unit	Dept. Sub-Org	FTE	Compensation Frequency	Annual Salary Range
0430	Behavioral Health Clinician III	HCAVC	3200-3205	3.0	Biweekly	\$53,609.44 - \$75,093.30

2. Approval of and authorization for the VCBH Director to agree to ministerial modifications to the Scope of Work (Exhibit A) of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) (Exhibit 1) for children's special education mental health

services with Ventura County Office of Education/Special Education Local Area Plan (VCOE/SELPA).

3. Authorization for the Auditor Controller to process the necessary accounting transactions to establish revenue and appropriations in Budget Unit 3200-3205 as follows (requires 4/5ths vote):

Budget Unit 3200-3205: MHL	
Increase Salaries and Benefits	\$211,394
Increase Services and Supplies	\$ 42,279
Increase Mental Health Services Fee	\$126,836
Increase Other Charges for Services	\$126,837

**FISCAL/MANDATES IMPACT:**

**MHL BU 3200-3205 (MHL Youth and Family Program Services)**

Mandatory: No [ ] Yes [X] Cite Authority: Assembly Bill 114, Chapter 43  
Source of Funding: Short Doyle/Medi-Cal Federal Financial Participation (SD/MC FFP), Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT)/Realignment, Ventura County Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)  
Funding Match Required: No  
Impact on Other Department(s): None

Summary of Revenue and Total Costs	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Revenue:	\$253,673	\$355,142
Costs: Direct Cost	\$253,673	\$355,142
Indirect - Dept.	\$0	\$0
Total Costs	\$253,673	\$355,142
Net County Costs	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Recovered Indirect Cost:	\$ -0-	\$ -0-

<b>FY 2016-17 Adopted Budget for MHL Youth and Family Program Services BU #3200-3205</b>				
	<b>Adopted Budget</b>	<b>Adjusted Budget</b>	<b>Projected Actual</b>	<b>Estimated Savings/(Deficit)</b>
Appropriations	\$33,739,446	\$33,739,446	\$33,739,446	\$0
Revenue	\$33,739,446	\$33,739,446	\$33,739,446	\$0
Net Cost	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Note: Appropriations of \$6,049,303 are included in the FY 2016-17 Adopted Budget. Recommendation #2 will add the remaining appropriations needed for this program and will be funded by VCOE/SELPA and SD/MC FFP.

## **DISCUSSION:**

### **Background:**

On June 30, 2011, Assembly Bill 114, Chapter 43 (AB 114) was signed into law. Under AB 114, several sections of Chapter 26.5 of the California Government Code were amended or rendered inoperative. This ended the state mandate on county mental health agencies to fund mental health services to students with disabilities. These services were provided to special education students via the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process and included, among others, individual or small group counseling, collateral services, medication monitoring, case management and residential care.

School Districts are now solely responsible for funding special education and related services needed to address social, emotional, and behavioral needs, in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

VCOE/SELPA has contracted with VCBH to provide special education related mental health services. VCBH invoices VCOE/SELPA for costs not covered by SD/MC FFP and EPSDT funds. The services may include, but are not limited to, assessments, individual therapy, group therapy, collateral services, case management, day rehabilitation, residential placement, and other mental health services.

During the four years since the inception of Intensive Social Emotional Services (ISES), the collective goal of VCOE/SELPA and VCBH has been to maintain children in their homes and in the county as opposed to in out-of-county or out-of-state placements. Data and research indicate that recidivism in youth placed out-of-state tops 70%, while increasing trauma and failing to address those behaviors leading to placement in the first place. VCBH is proud of its success in this commitment, reducing out-of-state placements from a high of nearly 100 to a current census of 17 while also greatly reducing the costs associated with residential placement and, most importantly, keeping children in their homes. The most recent agreement between VCBH and VCOE/SELPA for ISES services was approved by your Board on June 17, 2014 (Exhibit 1).

In addition to the SELPA program, another program that will focus on providing mental health services to youth is the Continuum of Care Reform for Foster Youth which will begin January 1, 2017. This State mandated program (AB403) requires that each child and their parents within the foster care system receive a mental health assessment and the appropriate level of services. It is estimated that this mandate will increase children's cases by 140%. The department has identified five vacant positions to be reclassified to help mitigate the total positions required to manage the increased cases resulting from this mandate.

### Recommendation 1

On May 12 2015, your Board approved the addition of 7.0 regular positions for the provision of ISES under the MOU between VCBH and VCOE/SELPA. The need for such services has continued to grow and VCBH recommends approval of 3.0 additional regular positions for the ISES program with anticipated potential deployment to the following regions of Ventura County based on projected caseload and needs:

Region	Position	FTE
Oxnard (North & South)	Behavioral Health Clinician III	1.0
Santa Paula/Fillmore	Behavioral Health Clinician III	1.0
Providence School / Ventura	Behavioral Health Clinician III	1.0
Total FTE		3.0

Through both the expansion in Santa Clara and Ojai Valleys as well as the new VCBH facility in the Centerpoint Mall in South Oxnard, identification of children requiring school-based mental health services continues to increase. Currently, 50 clinical staff are providing services at approximately 100 schools throughout the county. The ratio of cases per clinician is currently 18:1. VCOE/SELPA is requesting a caseload ratio of 15:1, which is the recommended standard. In FY 2015-16, VCBH clinicians provided services to 923 youth, an 18% increase from FY 2014-15 of 779 youth. VCOE/SELPA has requested and supports additional VCBH resources for ISES. VCBH and VCOE/SELPA will collectively monitor caseloads to ensure that the new resources are appropriately assigned to the areas in need.

VCBH recommends approval and authorization for the Human Resources Director to establish 3.0 new regular positions in the VCBH MHL Budget Unit 3200-3205, effective October 9, 2016. The total projected annual maximum cost for these ISES special education related mental health services for FY 2016-17 is fully funded by VCOE/SELPA, SD/MC FFP, and EPSDT. There will be no net increase in County costs as a result of these recommendations.

### Recommendation 2

To ensure that the MOU is reflective of current processes and procedures used in the ISES program, VCBH is recommending that your Board authorize the VCBH Director to agree to ministerial modifications to Exhibit A – Scope of Work of the MOU including: deleting obsolete program references, clarifying procedural statements and updating program forms.

### Recommendation 3

To ensure that sufficient appropriations are available for these positions and services, VCBH is recommending that your Board authorize the Auditor Controller's Office to process the necessary accounting transactions to increase appropriations and revenue in the MHL Youth and Family Program Services BU #3200-3205.

This Board letter has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller's Office, County Counsel, Human Resources, and the Behavioral Health Advisory Board. If you have any questions regarding this Board letter, please contact Elaine Crandall at 981-1881.



ELAINE CRANDALL  
Behavioral Health Director



JOHNSON K. GILL  
Health Care Agency Director

Attachment:  
Exhibit 1 – VCOE/SELPA MOU