



COUNTY OF ORANGE

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Contact: Shannon Widor
(714) 438-9707
shannon.widor@ocpw.ocgov.com

OC Health Care Agency to Present Annual Mental Health Services Act Plan Update

Santa Ana, Calif. (April 10, 2018) – To provide an update on steps being taken by the County of Orange to help address growing mental health needs, OC Health Care Agency (HCA) staff will present an overview of changes to the proposed FY 2018-19 Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Plan at the Orange County Mental Health Board’s public hearing Wednesday, April 11. The public hearing will be held from 6 – 7:30 p.m. at the Fullerton Community Center, 340 W. Commonwealth Ave. in Fullerton. **All community members are invited to attend.**

Following the public hearing, the Annual Update will require approval from the Orange County Board of Supervisors before it can be submitted to the State of California.

HCA has spent over \$1 billion of its total MHSA funds on new or expanded programs and related expenses. The County of Orange allocates MHSA funds between three key categories: Community Services and Supports, Prevention and Early Intervention, and Innovation. In addition, the County is required to maintain a Prudent Reserve to continue to provide needed services in times of funding volatility. As of June 30, 2017, the County had \$183 million in unspent rollover funds and \$165 million in projected revenue, for a projected total of \$348 million for FY 2017-18. Of that \$348 million, \$196 million has been approved by the Board for MHSA programs.

The Board of Supervisors has approved \$90 million through the Community Services and Supports funding for housing for homeless individuals experiencing mental health issues. The Board has also approved \$26 million in funding for the Anita Street Project and authorized funding for and identification of additional Crisis Stabilization Units within the County. It is projected that only the Prevention and Early Intervention and Innovation categories will have unspent balances. The Board will be providing direction on those remaining balances to determine the most appropriate use for those funds within those categories.

California voters passed the MHSA, known as Proposition 63, in November 2004. The Act placed a 1% state tax on individual income over \$1 million to expand and improve voluntary mental health programs. More details about the County’s MHSA Program and funding are available as part of the Orange County [MHSA Fact Sheet](#).

The [MHSA FY 2018-19 Plan Update](#) is available for review at ochealthinfo.com/mhsa and at Orange County Public Libraries branches.

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