



August 23, 2007

Dear County Mental Health Director:

We are pleased to announce the release of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Housing Program Application. California counties have committed an initial \$400 million for the program, and this application represents an historic partnership at the state and local level. This program was made possible with the leadership and support of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission.

To receive MHSA Housing Program funding, each county must have a fully executed MHSA Performance Contract amendment authorizing the state to administer this program on its behalf. Each county must submit an MHSA Housing Program application to both the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and the California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA). MHSA Housing Program applications will be considered updates to a county's Community Services and Supports (CSS) component of its Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan. The planning process must comply with the regulations found in Title 9 California Code of Regulations Section 3100 et seq.

DMH, CalHFA, and the County Mental Health Directors Association (CMHDA) are looking forward to establishing an MHSA Housing Program which will continue to transform the mental health system, offering consumers housing and supportive services that will enable them to live more independently in our communities.

The MHSA Housing Program Application can be accessed on both the DMH and CalHFA Websites.

Sincerely,



STEPHEN W. MAYBERG, Ph.D.
Director
Department of Mental Health



THERESA A. PARKER
Executive Director
California Housing Finance Agency

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Darrell Steinberg
Members, CMHDA Executive Committee
Ann Arneill-Py
Gale Bataille
Sheri Whitt