

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Administrative Office	(2) MEETING DATE 6/16/2015	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Leslie Brown 805-781-5011	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve the recommended responses to the FY 2014-15 Grand Jury report titled "We are Waiting: Access to County Provided Mental Health Services" and forward these responses to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court by July 13, 2015. All Districts.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that your Board adopt the attached response to the Grand Jury report titled "We are Waiting: Access to County Provided Mental Health Services" prepared by the Health Agency as the Board's response and forward these responses to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court by July 13, 2015.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) N/A	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT N/A	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT N/A	(9) BUDGETED? N/A
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ___) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ___)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A    Date: _____	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW This item was prepared by the Administrative Office			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts			

# County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Administrative Office / Leslie Brown, Administrative Analyst 805-781-5011

DATE: 6/16/2015

SUBJECT: Request to approve the recommended responses to the FY 2014-15 Grand Jury report titled "We are Waiting: Access to County Provided Mental Health Services" and forward these responses to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court by July 13, 2015. All Districts.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that your Board adopt the attached response to the Grand Jury report titled "We are Waiting: Access to County Provided Mental Health Services" prepared by the Health Agency as the Board's response and forward these responses to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court by July 13, 2015.

## **DISCUSSION**

On May 14, 2015 the Grand Jury issued a report titled "We are Waiting: Access to County Provided Mental Health Services" based on their review of mental health services the County provides to adults in the community. A key focus of the report is on circumstances contributing to delays adults face in accessing assessment and treatment services for serious mental health issues. Issues related to timely access to services, the need for improved crisis stabilization services and the need to expand clinical staff capacity were also identified by the Behavioral Health Administrator in the March 17, 2015 report to your Board regarding the current delivery of behavioral health services. The following is a link to that report:

<http://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/agenda/sanluisobispo/4455/SXRibSBEB2N1bWVudCAoUHVibGijKSA=/14/n/41403.doc>

To address the deficiencies in service delivery noted in the March 17<sup>th</sup> report, the FY 2015-16 Proposed Budget includes the recommended addition of 22.0 FTE to the Behavioral Health Department: 15.5 FTE for mental health services and 6.5 FTE for substance use disorder services. Of the 15.5 FTE associated with enhanced mental health services, 8.5 FTE were recommended to expand staff resources in order to increase access to mental health services for adults and reduce wait times to no more than 14 days from request for services. Additional information related to these augmentations can be found in the FY 2015-16 Proposed Budget, pages C 148 – C 150. The following is a link to the FY 2015-16 Proposed Budget, Health and Human Services section, which includes information on Behavioral Health:

<http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Assets/AD/Budget/2015-16+Proposed+budget/2015-16+proposed+budget+health+and+human+services.pdf>

In addition, a new agreement with Sierra Mental Wellness Group is on your Board's agenda for today's meeting to provide mobile mental health crisis intervention services in the county. This new agreement will provide an expansion in crisis services, which has been called for by several key stakeholders including hospitals, law enforcement and community social services providers. An important outcome of these services is to reduce the number of clients requiring admission to the Psychiatric Health Facility for inpatient mental health treatment.

Both the Board of Supervisors and the Health Agency are required to respond to all eleven Findings and all eight Recommendations. Staff is recommending that your Board adopt the responses prepared by the Health Agency (Attachment 1) as the Board's response to this Grand Jury Report. A copy of the Grand Jury report is provided in Attachment 2.

## **OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

The Health Agency developed the attached responses to the Findings and Recommendations in the Grand Jury report.

## **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

There is no financial impact directly associated with the preparation of the County's response to this Grand Jury Report. However, there would be potentially significant financial impacts associated with implementation of various recommendations made by the Grand Jury such as establishing and operating a Crisis Stabilization Unit, increasing staff to provide enhanced psychiatric support, and implementing recruitment incentives to facilitate hiring Staff Psychiatrists. As noted in the Health Agency's response to the Grand Jury's recommendation to establish a Crisis Stabilization Unit (Recommendation 5), the annual cost to operate such a facility could run approximately \$1.3 million, with Medi-Cal revenue offsetting approximately \$480,000 of this expense. The recommended addition of 8.5 FTE in the FY 2015-16 Proposed Budget, to increase access to mental health services for adults and reduce wait times to no more than 14 days from request for services, will cost approximately \$720,000 with revenue offsetting approximately \$308,000 of this amount. The cost of recruitment incentives to facilitate hiring Staff Psychiatrists would depend on the types of incentives offered. Such incentives may not be necessary given recent hiring activity, as noted in the attached response.

## **RESULTS**

This response meets the legal requirements for responding to a Grand Jury report with findings and recommendations.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Health Agency response to the Grand Jury Report
2. Grand Jury Report "We are Waiting: Access to County Provided Mental Health Services"