



# Mental Health Services Act Capital Facilities

## **The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)**

was approved by California voters as Proposition 63 in November 2004. Prop 63 imposes a 1% tax on personal incomes over \$1 million per year to be used for new or enhanced mental health services for individuals and communities that had not been served or were underserved.

MHSA has **five components** that are administered at the local level by the Ventura County Behavioral Health Department:

### **Community Services and Supports**

17 programs serving children, transitional age youth, adults and older adults

**Workforce Education & Training**  
Plan approved February 2009.  
Implementation underway

### **Capital Facilities & Technologies**

Component Plan approved by State  
Technology Plan approved by in Sept 2009. Implementation underway.

**Prevention & Early Intervention**  
Plan approved by State in October 2009. Implementation underway.

### **Innovation**

State requirements recently released

## **Project Overview:**

The State has allocated \$9,319,400 to the County of Ventura for Capital Facilities and Technological Needs to meet the needs of the newly developed MHSA Programs. To receive the funds, counties must submit an overall component plan and individual project plans for Capital Facilities and Technology Needs. The Ventura County Behavioral Health Department the Capital Facilities and Technological Needs Component Plan was recently approved by the State. Separate *Project Plans* must be submitted for State approval for both Capital Facilities and Technological Needs.

The Capital Facilities Project will provide MHSA funds to Ventura County to secure a facility for a MHSA program. The priority need for Capital Facility funds was based on MHSA planning and stakeholder input. The project selected for Capital Facilities funding is a Short Term Social Rehabilitation Facility.

## **Description of a Short Term Social Rehabilitation Program:**

Ventura County does not currently have a voluntary short term social rehabilitation facility to accommodate adults who are in crisis, who may be suffering from co-occurring disorders, or who want and need the additional support of a voluntary program. This new program will provide crisis support alternatives.

This voluntary Adult Short-Term Social Rehabilitation program is designed as an alternative to hospitalization for individuals presenting with sub-acute psychiatric symptoms and possible co-occurring disorders. Services will be provided in the least restrictive environment possible leading to a reduction in involuntary hospitalizations, incarcerations and homelessness for Ventura County's Severely Mentally Ill (SMI) adults needing a higher level of care on a short term basis. The Short-Term Social Rehabilitation program will be an integrated, multidisciplinary strategy focusing on wellness and recovery.

Based on a recovery—centered approach and designed to incorporate a social rehabilitation model, the goal of the program is to facilitate a reduction in the intensity of those factors that lead to admission to higher levels of care. Provided on a voluntary basis, this program may serve mentally ill adults at release from incarceration and not yet ready to move to community based services and supports, individuals receiving community-based services requiring a short-term higher level of care and individuals living within the community who experience a mental health crisis requiring a short term intensive support program.

The county currently seeks a site for a short term social rehabilitation facility at which time we will prepare our Project Plan for submission to the State for approval.

For more information please contact Susan Kelly at 805-981-6440.