



VENTURA COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Mental Health Services Act Technological Needs

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

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

Workforce Education & Training

Implementation underway

Capital Facilities & Technologies

Implementation underway.

Prevention & Early Intervention

Implementation underway.

Innovation

2 Projects recently approved and beginning implementation

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.

Technological Needs Project:

The Technological Needs Project will provide MHSA funding to Ventura County to purchase and implement a new MIS (Management Information System) that is necessary to meet our current needs and to comply with state and federal requirements to transform to an integrated technology system that supports secure Electronic Health Records.

The goals of the MHSA Technology Needs project are to:

- Modernize and Transform Information Systems
- To improve quality of care, operational efficiency and cost effectiveness
- Ensure that Information systems are comprehensive, accessible and the technology should be consistent so that information can be transmitted between systems (interoperability).

Improved Technology is a Federal Requirement and Electronic Health Record (E.H.R.) systems are being implemented nationally and internationally and will soon be required by the Department of Mental Health. The EHR is the foundation for an Integrated Systems Infrastructure and can provide:

- A secure, real-time, point-of-care, client centered information resource for service providers. Aids decision making by providing access to health record information
- Automated and streamlined workflow for service providers
- Support for the collection of data for uses other than direct clinical care
- Linkage to a Personal Health Record

The new system will include electronic billing, registration, data collection, electronic clinical notes, e-prescribing and lab orders, mobile clinical access, document imaging, interface with contracted community based providers, and a linkage to a personal health record that consumers can set up and control. We are currently putting together our Technology plan to purchase and implement the new system features over the next five years.

For more information please contact Susan Kelly at 805-981-6440 or Susan.Kelly@ventura.org.