



Edwin M. Lee
Mayor

Barbara A. Garcia, MPA
Director of Health

TO: Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Marlo Simmons
Director of Mental Health Services Act

THROUGH: Barbara A. Garcia, MPA
Director of Health

DATE: July 7, 2015

SUBJECT: Adoption of San Francisco Mental Health Services Act
Innovation Peer Respite Project Plan

The San Francisco Department of Public Health, Behavioral Health Services, is requesting approval that would adopt the San Francisco Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Innovation Peer Respite Project Plan.

Background

The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) was established pursuant to W&I section 5890 and provides funds to counties for the implementation of its MHSA programs for prevention and early intervention, community services and supports, workforce development and training, innovation, plus capital facilities and technological needs.

In order to access MHSA funding, counties are required to develop plans in collaboration with stakeholders; post the plan for a 30 day public comment period; hold a public hearing on the plan with the County Mental Health Board; and be adopted by County Boards of Supervisors prior to submission to the State.

The purpose of the proposed Innovation Project Plan is to increase the quality of services to individuals with severe mental illness by providing a safe space designed to offer alternatives to emergency settings. The Peer Respite will be located on the grounds of San Francisco General Hospital and will be used on a temporary basis for guests requiring additional support to avoid hospitalization or facilitate their successful return to the community. If approved by the State, the plan will provide Innovation funding in the amount of \$500,400 per year.