EXHIBIT C

Report on FY 2007/08 Community Services and Supports Activities MHSA FY 2009/10 ANNUAL UPDATE

County Name: Merced

Provide a brief narrative description of progress in providing services through the MHSA Community Services and Supports (CSS) component to unserved and underserved populations, with emphasis on reducing racial/ethnic service disparities. (suggested length – one-half page)

For the South East Asian (SEA) and Latino population, the Department has dedicated a bilingual/bicultural case manager who is the consistent figure for the group. Each group has grown exponentially, both in size and leadership. The client driven activities are directly related to the group's ability to understand their role and opportunity to reduce disparities in the community. They have become a partner in inviting others to attend and continue to engage those that have become participants. The Wellness Center Membership has articulated they finally feel they "have a voice".

All groups have transcended the cultural chasm and have acculturated to the larger group which in turn has embraced the unserved and underserved community at large.

An example: Cultural events developed and implemented by the groups include all members of the Wellness Center. The Latinas group consistently includes 30 – 35 participants. They are currently inviting their spouses to participate once a month where the discussion focuses on highlights of various topics such as "Family Issues" aka Asuntos de Familia. They also invite others to their potluck and cultural events.

By means of the Community Outreach and Engagement work plan (COPE), the Department has provided outreach at the primary care facilities, schools, and where the homeless are located throughout the city. Currently, COPE is part of the county-wide group one-stop-shop at the local homeless shelter. The homeless individuals are provided a variety of services by Human Services, Public Health, Primary Health, and Mental Health once a month for a total of four hours at the shelter.

The Southeast Asian Community Assistance Program (SEACAP) has been well received by the community. The voices of the SEA stakeholders were heard and their requests for additional/expansion of services are being implemented. Services such as: Providing additional treatment services, adding case management and more access to faith-based (SHAMAN) consultation to the participants. The expansion has also allowed for inclusion of a community liaison to intervene in preventing domestic violence from escalating, a transporter for the participants as the SEA monolingual community has difficulty accessing transportation and reading signs.