MHSA Housing Program Assignment Agreement

The California State Department of Mental Health (DMH), in accordance with the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Housing Program, Community Supports and Services (CSS) component, has identified funding to develop permanent supportive housing for consumers of mental health who are currently homeless or at risk of homelessness (DMH Letter No.: 07-06). Merced County's allocation is $2,615,400.

The MHSA Housing Program funds are jointly administered by DMH and the California Housing and Finance Agency (CalHFA). Housing developers interested in using MHSA funds to build permanent supportive housing for this population in Merced must partner with Merced County Department of Mental Health. The proposed housing development must be in alignment with consumer housing preferences and Merced County Department of Mental Health must agree to partner with the housing developer to provide the mental health services. Upon completion of those two steps, the housing developer will submit an application directly to CalHFA.

In order for DMH to transfer a county's housing funds to CalHFA, each County must approve an Assignment Agreement. The MHSA Housing Program funds can only be used to build permanent supportive housing in conjunction with CalHFA; they cannot be used for mental health services or for any of the purposes. If Merced County chooses not to assign these funds to CalHFA through the Assignment Agreement, the County will lose the $2,615,400.

The Assignment Agreement is considered an update to Merced County's CSS Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan. In accordance with the California Code of Regulations, it is being posted for a 30-day public comment period. Subsequent to the public comment period, the Assignment Agreement must be approved by Merced County's Board of Supervisors and submitted to DMH. Upon receipt of the Assignment Agreement, DMH will transfer the $2,615,400 to CalHFA.

This Assignment Agreement will be posted from May 1, 2008 through May 31, 2008. Copies of the Assignment Agreement may be downloaded from this site in Adobe PDF® format or may be requested on CD-ROM or in hardcopy format by calling the dedicated MHSA telephone line at 866-626-MHSA (6472), emailing Mprop63@co.merced.ca.us, or writing to:

MHSA Coordinator
Merced County Department
Of Mental Health
PO Box 2087
Merced, CA 95344

Comments should be sent to the address above or emailed to Mprop63@co.merced.ca.us.