



City and County of San Francisco

San Francisco Department of Public Health

Barbara A. Garcia, MPA
Director of Health

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 31, 2018

TO: President Edward A. Chow, M.D. and
Honorable Members of the Health Commission

THROUGH: Barbara Garcia, Director of Health

FROM: Kavos Ghane Bassiri, Director, Behavioral Health Services

RE: **California Mental Health Services Authority – Participation Agreement – Presumptive Transfer**

Under the Welfare and Institution Code § 14717.1, responsibility for providing or arranging for specialty mental health services shall promptly transfer from the county of original jurisdiction to the county in which a foster child resides, subject to any exceptions established pursuant to that section. This is known as “presumptive transfer.” Counties have agreed that the county of original jurisdiction (sending county) remains responsible for reimbursing the receiving county for specialty mental health services provided or arranged by the receiving county. Under this program, CalMHSA acts as a fiscal agent for participating counties to make and receive transfer payments of county match dollars.

The Mayor’s Office will submit a resolution with the FY2018-19 and FY 2019-20 Annual Appropriations Ordinance authorizing the Director of Health to sign a Participation Agreement with CALMHSA to facilitate the transfer of funds to cover San Francisco’s obligation to pay for mental health treatment for San Francisco foster children placed out-of-county as required by California Welfare & Institutions Code § 14717.1.

San Francisco currently has approximately 280 foster care children placed out of county. Initial estimates are that the program will require approximately \$1.9 million annually to transfer to CALMHSA as fiscal agent with an initial deposit of \$0.6M required upon ratification of the Participation Agreement.

The mission of the San Francisco Department of Public Health is to protect and promote the health of all San Franciscans.

We shall ~ Assess and research the health of the community ~ Develop and enforce health policy ~ Prevent disease and injury ~

~ Educate the public and train health care providers ~ Provide quality, comprehensive, culturally-proficient health services ~ Ensure equal access to all ~

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