



*7001-A East Parkway, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95823*

June 13, 2016

The Honorable Roberta MacGlashan, Chair
Sacramento County Board of Supervisors
700 H Street
Suite 1450
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Supervisor MacGlashan:

The Sacramento County Mental Health Board (MHB) has reviewed the mental health portion of the proposed Fiscal Year 2016-2017 budget for the Division of Behavioral Health Services (Division). We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this budget consistent with our statutory duty to advise the Board of Supervisors.

The MHB supports both the Division's base budget and its pending growth requests and endorses these items as presented at the MHB general meeting on June 1, 2016. These items are consistent with the MHB's policy priorities communicated to the Board of Supervisors in a March 13, 2015, letter regarding the redesign and rebalancing of Sacramento County's mental health services for all populations.

The MHB respectfully urges the Board of Supervisors to address proactively the likely cost increases from recent wage law changes. These possible impacts stem from the coming increase in the California minimum wage and the new federal rule raising the maximum salary at which an employee qualifies for overtime pay. Given Sacramento County's heavy reliance on contracted mental health providers affected by the new laws, these cost increases could be significant for the County. We fear a corresponding reduction in the availability, quality, and accessibility of care. The MHB will continue to periodically monitor for any potential impact of these law changes.

Thank you for your consideration of the MHB's comments. We look forward to continuing our advisory role in the coming fiscal year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Campbell".

Tom Campbell, Chair
Sacramento County Mental Health Board

Cc: Sacramento County Board of Supervisors
Navdeep S. Gill, Sacramento County Chief Executive Officer
Paul Lake, Sacramento County Chief Deputy County Executive
Sherri Z. Heller, Sacramento County Director of Health and Human Services
Uma K. Zykofsky, Sacramento County Behavioral Health Services Director