BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD (BHAB) ACTION ITEM
MARCH 4, 2024

RECEIVE AND APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL YEARS 2023-2026 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT THREE-YEAR PROGRAM AND EXPENDITURE PLAN

Under the leadership of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board), the County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Services continues making strides to create a behavioral health system with regionally distributed services that are accessible to all individuals and families in need.
The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) provides funding for critical mental health programs that serve people with serious mental illness or serious emotional disturbance, supporting some of San Diego County's most vulnerable and unserved populations through services that are responsive to cultural and linguistic needs. MHSA provides dedicated ongoing funding to counties to address a broad continuum of mental health services needs within five distinct components including Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI), Community Services and Supports (CSS), Innovation (INN), Workforce Education and Training (WET), and Capital Facilities (CF) and Technological Needs (TN).

As required by the Welfare and Institutions Code, counties must complete a three-year plan and subsequent annual updates for MHSA-funded programs inclusive of all programs and expenditures. The most recent MHSA Three-Year Plan for Fiscal Years (FY) 2023-24 through 2025-26 was approved by the Board on June 13, 2023 (22) and was subsequently submitted to the Mental Health Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHOAC). This action requests the Board receive and approve an amendment to the MHSA Three-Year Plan, which would transfer $10.0 million of CSS funds to the CFTN component in FY 2023-24 for the development and construction of the East Region Crisis Stabilization Unit, and to submit the amendment to the MHOAC, if approved by the Board.

It is, THEREFORE, staff's recommendation that BHAB supports the approvals and authorizations needed to implement the above recommendation.