

COUNTY OF ORANGE HEALTH CARE AGENCY

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

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Dear Mental Health Board and Stakeholders:

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The Orange County Health Care Agency, Behavioral Health Services, Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Training Department is pleased to present you with a draft of the MHSA Workforce Education and Training (WET) Plan and the Executive Summary of that Plan. Implementation of this plan will expand the continuum of workforce education and training activities in Orange County. In addition, it will result in an increase in the number of appropriately trained, qualified staff, including consumer and family member service providers, able to offer recovery-based mental health services within the county mental health system.

The Plan, which represents approximately \$8.2 million in funding provided through the Mental Health Service Act to Orange County, contains 19 specific workforce education and training actions. It was developed through the efforts of 350 stakeholders representing 59 different community agencies, as well as many unaffiliated individuals. The process was guided by a 12-member WET Stakeholders' Advisory Committee and approved by the MHSA Steering Committee on March 6, 2008. Following that approval, the draft Plan was posted for 30 days for public comment from April 2 – May 2, 2008.

We look forward to public discussion and Mental Health Board approval of the Plan. Following Board of Supervisors' approval of the request for funding, the Plan will be submitted to the California Department of Mental Health for review and approval.

Sincerely,

Casey Dorman, Ph.D. MHSA Training Coordinator