RESOLUTION NO. 2010-413

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
APPROVING THE COUNTY'S MEMBERSHIP IN
THE CALIFORNIA MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY (CalMHSA)

WHEREAS, The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), passed by California voters in 2004, anticipated that counties would find it most efficient to act jointly both statewide and regionally to use the funds provided by the MHSA for specified projects; and

WHEREAS, Section 3 of the MHSA states that the purpose and intent of the Act is “to ensure that all funds are expended in the most cost effective manner and services are provided in accordance with recommended best practices subject to local and state oversight to ensure accountability to taxpayers and the public;” and

WHEREAS, Welfare and Institutions Code Section 5897 (added by the Act) states as follows:

- “Notwithstanding any other provision of State law, the Department of Mental Health shall implement the mental health services provided by Parts 3, 3.6 and 4 of this Division through contracts with county mental health programs or counties acting jointly. A contract may be exclusive and may be awarded on a geographic basis; and
- “Two or more counties acting jointly may agree to deliver or subcontract for the delivery of such mental health services. The agreement may encompass all or any part of such mental health services provided pursuant to these parts. Any agreement between counties shall delineate each county’s responsibilities and fiscal liability;” and

WHEREAS, through counties acting jointly, programs to address local needs can in one county can be coordinated with programs to address similar needs in other counties or regions of the State; and

WHEREAS, through counties acting jointly, resources can be maximized and administrative costs can be reduced; and

WHEREAS, a centralized entity is better suited to house, share and disseminate research, information and specific strategies that are the most effective and quality assured; and

WHEREAS, a joint powers authority is an efficient and effective vehicle for developing and implementing statewide and regional mental health projects; and
WHEREAS, the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) provides a vehicle through which counties can act jointly, provides an alternative to having the State Department of Mental Health (DMH) administer statewide MHSA projects, and provides counties with an alternative to assigning county MHSA funds to DMH to implement state and regional MHSA projects;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the County of Santa Clara approves the County’s membership in CalMHSA so that the County can work with other counties to jointly develop and fund statewide or regional mental health projects.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors appoints the Mental Health Department Director to act as the County’s representative on the CalMHSA Board of Directors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors authorizes the Mental Health Department Director to designate an alternate representative who shall have the authority to attend, participate in and vote at any meeting when the Director of the County Mental Health Department is absent.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors delegates authority to the Mental Health Department Director to execute the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement that will allow the County to become a member of CalMHSA.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara, State of California, this SEP 28 2010 by the following vote:

AYES: CORTESE, GAOE, SHIRAKAWA, YEAGER

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Signed and certified that a copy of this document has been delivered by electronic or other means to the President, Board of Supervisors.

ATTEST: Maria Marinus

Maria Marinus, Clerk
Board of Supervisors

DATED: SEP 28 2010

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Greta S. Hansen
Deputy County Counsel

DATED: 9/15/10