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Public invited to comment on Mental Health Services Act Innovation Plan

SOLANO COUNTY (September 22, 2009) – Solano County Health and Social Services Mental Health Division encourages the public to review and make comments on its Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Innovation Plan by 5 PM on October 19, 2009.

The MHSA Innovation Plan is the final component of MHSA that increases access to and quality of mental health services in order to improve mental health outcomes. The Innovation Plan focuses on utilizing novel and creative strategies to make mental health services more readily available to a variety of communities.

The Innovation Plan was developed through a community driven process. Input was gathered from Solano County community members through various community meetings and a survey tool. “We are very pleased by the level of community involvement thus far in developing this plan,” said Michael Oprendek, Deputy Director of the Solano County Mental Health Division. “Community members know the needs of their area, and Solano has created an Innovative Plan to increase mental health services to underserved populations. We encourage anyone who may have an interest to review the Innovation Plan and to provide further feedback about it.”

“This new project is very exciting, because it will bring services directly into the communities where those services are needed,” said Sher E. Daron, a consumer of mental health services and member of Solano County’s MHSA Steering Committee.

Solano County will host a public hearing about the MHSA Innovation Plan after the public comment period ends on October 19, 2009. The public is encouraged to attend:

October 20th, 2009 at 4:30 PM
2101 Courage Drive, Multi-Purpose Room
Fairfield, CA 94533

MHSA was formed by Proposition 63, which was passed by California voters in 2004 to provide funding for additional mental health services in California. These additional services currently include comprehensive case management services; wellness and recovery services; and prevention and early intervention services for target populations.

To view the MHSA Innovation Plan, visit the Solano County Mental Health Division web site at <http://www.solanocounty.com/depts/hss/mhs/involvement.asp>. To receive a mailed copy of the plan, please call 707-784-8320. To provide feedback and comments about the plan, please call 707-784-8320, email jmrichards@solanocounty.com or send by mail to 275 Beck Avenue, MS 5-250, Fairfield, CA 94533, Attn: MHSA Community Feedback.

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