CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
Mental Health

1600 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 654-2309

December 31, 2004

Dear Mental Health Services Act Stakeholder:

As you know, the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) becomes effective January 1, 2005. Among other components, the Act provides funding for local planning in Fiscal Year 2004/05. The Department of Mental Health (DMH) is establishing an application process in which county mental health departments can request MHSA local planning funding by providing information specified by DMH to ensure compliance with the intent and requirements of the MHSA. We anticipate providing the requirements for local planning funding requests by January 17, 2005.

After consultation with stakeholders, DMH has decided that local planning expenditures incurred beginning 1/1/05 for the MHSA will be allowable under the MHSA if such expenditures are consistent with the local planning request that is subsequently approved by DMH. No funds will be released for planning until the local planning request is approved and sufficient funds are available in the Mental Health Services Fund.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the DMH MHSA line at 916-653-2634 or e-mail MHSA@dmh.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

STEPHEN W. MAYBERG, Ph.D.
Director