



COUNTY OF LAKE
Department of Behavioral Health
PO Box 1024
Lucerne, CA 95458-1024

Todd Metcalf
Administrator

September 11, 2018

Department of Health Care Services
Managed Care Quality and Monitoring Division
1501 Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 997413, M.S. 4400
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

Dear Sir or Madame:

The Lake County Behavioral Health Services Department would like to apply for the Homeless Mentally Ill Outreach and Treatment Program funds in the amount of \$200,000 to be expended during the period January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

Lake County is located about 110 miles north of San Francisco and 50 miles east of the Pacific Coast. It is both a rural and comparatively socio-economically challenged county. With a total population of approximately 64,000 people, small town living is conducive to a supportive, friendly and tight-knit community.

Lake County has survived eight noteworthy wildfires in the last seven years, having scorched 62 percent of the County to date. The devastation to the County is enormous, not to mention the destruction of nearly 3,000 homes in the community. The housing shortage in this County is painfully apparent, forcing those with means to vacate the area completely, yet still leaving a shortage of homes for those in need. This still leaves a large homeless count that has undoubtedly increased since the Pawnee and Mendocino Complex fires this year.

Lake County has a large high-risk population. Lake County has a higher percentage of low-income older adults than other California counties. The county also includes those individuals untrusting of government. Both segments of these demographics are reluctant to ask for any type of (governmental) assistance. This will require extensive and comprehensive outreach to encourage these individuals to accept help. The County's death rate is twice the State's average, with a suicide rate triple that of the State.

Outreach will be a critical factor in getting those in need the assistance they deserve. This involves connecting with our existing partners such as schools, faith-based organizations, local businesses and other appropriate county departments in order to create a resource list for fire survivors.

These monies will be used to augment existing Mental Health Services Act housing dollars in addition to future "No Place Like Home" funds to support the construction of a 30-40 unit housing project to serve homeless, mentally ill at-risk individuals. The use of these funds meets the provisions of SB840.

Respectfully Submitted,

Todd Metcalf

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Clinic Locations:

7000-B South Center Drive, Clearlake, CA 95422
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