

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
**Budget Change Proposal - Cover Sheet**  
 DF-46 (REV 08/15)

Fiscal Year 2016-17	Business Unit 4560	Department Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission	Priority No. 2
Budget Request Name 4560-002-BCP-BR-2016-GB		Program 15	Subprogram NONE

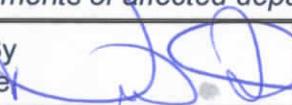
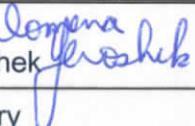
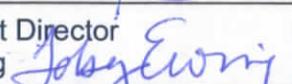
Budget Request Description  
 Reappropriation of unexpended Triage Personnel Grant Funds

Budget Request Summary

The Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission requests reappropriation of funds from Fiscal Years 2013-14, 2014-15, and 2015-16, to support Triage Personnel Grants until Fiscal Year 2017-18, allowing counties to spend the Triage Grant funding until the end of the current grant cycle.

Requires Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Code Section(s) to be Added/Amended/Repealed	
Does this BCP contain information technology (IT) components? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <i>If yes, departmental Chief Information Officer must sign.</i>	Department CIO	Date
For IT requests, specify the date a Special Project Report (SPR) or Feasibility Study Report (FSR) was approved by the Department of Technology, or previously by the Department of Finance. <input type="checkbox"/> FSR <input type="checkbox"/> SPR                      Project No.                      Date:		

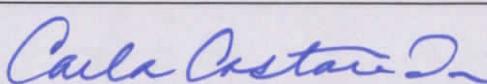
If proposal affects another department, does other department concur with proposal?  Yes  No  
 Attach comments of affected department, signed and dated by the department director or designee.

Prepared By Norma Patel 	Date 9/2/15 3:40	Reviewed By Filomena Yeroshek 	Date 9/2/15
Department Director Toby Ewing 	Date 9/2/15 3:41	Agency Secretary N/A	Date

**Department of Finance Use Only**

Additional Review:  Capital Outlay  ITCU  FSCU  OSAE  CALSTARS  Dept. of Technology

BCP Type:  Policy  Workload Budget per Government Code 13308.05

PPBA 	Date submitted to the Legislature 1-8-16
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## Analysis of Problem

### A. Budget Request Summary

The Mental Health Wellness Act of 2013 provides counties with funds for crisis programs through a competitive grant process. The MHSOAC awarded the grants in FY 2013-14 however, counties had challenges in hiring triage personnel which resulted in delayed implementation. The Commission is requesting reappropriation of funds to allow counties that received grants to continue their triage programs through fiscal year 2017-18.

### B. Background/History

On June 27, 2013, the Governor signed SB 82, the Investment in Mental Health Wellness Act of 2013, creating an opportunity to use Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) dollars to expand crisis services statewide that are expected to lead to improved life outcomes for the persons served and improved system outcomes for mental health and its community partners. Among the objectives cited in the Mental Health Wellness Act of 2013 is to "expand access to early intervention and treatment services to improve the client experience, achieve recovery and wellness, and reduce costs." This objective is consistent with the vision and focus for services identified in the MHSA.

SB 82 mandated the Commission to establish and administer a new competitive grant program that supports local mental health departments in the hiring of 600 new mental health triage personnel statewide. SB 82 also tasked the Commission with ongoing administration and monitoring of this new triage program.

Through a competitive grant process the Commission awarded 22 triage personnel grants to counties for a term beginning 2013-14 through 2016-17. Given the delayed implementation of the initial awards, the Budget Act of 2014 reappropriated fiscal year 2013-14 unexpended triage personnel grant funds through 2016-17. With the reappropriated funds, the Commission funded 2 additional county triage grant requests. The Commission is requesting to reappropriate funds to extend the term of the grants to fiscal year 2017-18 to allow counties to spend the funds awarded in the grant process for the intended four-year grant cycle.

### C. State Level Considerations

This request supports and reflects policies set forth in SB 82 to increase crisis intervention services in California.

### D. Justification

Allowing counties to continue to use the funds awarded to them for the Triage Personnel grant programs for an additional year would provide more complete information to evaluate the program's effectiveness and further assist thousands of high-need individuals in accessing crisis services including; mental health care, medical care, alcohol and drug treatment, social services, and educational services, as well as reduce unnecessary hospitalizations and inpatient days. Providing crisis intervention services reduces recidivism and mitigates unnecessary expenditures for local law enforcement. Additionally, the Commission will better understand the outcomes of these services now that programs are in place and triage staff have been hired. The required evaluation reports over the next few years will assist the Commission with the next cycle of grants by using lessons learned from the current triage personnel grants.

## Analysis of Problem

### E. Outcomes and Accountability

As of September 2015, counties hired 192.5 triage personnel staff. Counties are continuing to hire triage staff and the Commission continues to work with counties to assist with any hiring challenges. The next hiring report was due on September 30, 2015, and the Commission is currently reviewing. The Commission also will receive the first evaluation report from grantees in March of 2016. The outcomes from this report will provide interim information because of the hiring challenges the first year and a half of the grant cycle. The Commission is beginning to develop the request for applications for the next cycle of grants that will begin in 2017-18 to allow counties more time to recruit triage personnel staff.

### F. Analysis of All Feasible Alternatives

#### Alternative #1

##### Reappropriation

Pro: By extending the grants by one year it would provide counties with opportunity to fully implement and evaluate the existing services.

Con: Unexpended funds would not be available for other MHSA activities funded through the 5% administrative cap.

#### Alternative #2

##### No reappropriation

Pro: The unexpended funds would be available for other MHSA activities funded through the 5% administrative cap.

Con: The MHSF that was specifically appropriated for SB 82 Crisis Services would be diverted for other purposes in support of MHSA, and would not permit an evaluation of the fully implemented program.

#### Alternative #3

##### Submit application for next round of Triage grants.

Pro: Counties that currently have grants could apply for the 2017-18 Triage Grant Request for Applications to continue their existing programs.

Con: There is no guarantee that existing counties will be awarded grants in the next Triage Grant Cycle.

### G. Implementation Plan

The Commission will amend all Triage Personnel Grants and extend the term of the grant by one year. The grant amendments also will include budget language allowing counties to spend the funds until June 30, 2018.

### H. Supplemental Information

None

### I. Recommendation

#### Alternative #1

Reappropriate funds from Fiscal Years 2013-14, 2014-15, and 2015-16 to support Triage Personnel Grants until Fiscal Year 2017-18, allowing counties to spend the Triage Grant funding without regard to fiscal year until the end of the current grant cycle.