

The Santa Clara County Mental Health Board, through the System Planning and Fiscal Committee, will host a Public Forum at the County Service Building 2, Auditorium, 1555 Berger Drive, San Jose, CA, on Tuesday, December 3, 2013 from 9:00 to 11:00 AM.

The following topics will be discussed and public input is welcomed.

SB82 - Senate Pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg's (D-Sacramento) bill, the Investment in Mental Health Wellness Act of 2013 establishes a new grant program to disburse funds to California counties or to their nonprofit or public agency designates for the purpose of developing mental health crisis support programs. Specifically, funds will "increase capacity for client assistance and services in crisis intervention, crisis stabilization, crisis residential treatment, rehabilitative mental health services, and mobile crisis support teams." The grants from the California Health Facilities Financing Authority (CHFFA) will support capital improvement, expansion and limited start-up costs.

SB 585 - Senate Pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg bill pertaining to Laura's Law, which was signed by the Governor. Effective January 1, 2014, SB 585 clarifies that counties that elect to implement Laura's law (Assisted Outpatient Treatment) are permitted to pay for the provision of mental health services using Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funds (when included in county MHSA plans), 1991 Realignment Mental Health funds, 2011 Realignment Mental Health Account and Behavioral Health Subaccount Realignment funds, and any other funds from which the State Controller makes distributions to the counties for those purposes.

SB 364 - Senator Pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg bill that makes revisions and clarifications to the Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act. The LPS Act provides for the involuntary detention, assessment, evaluation, and crisis intervention of persons who, due to a mental disorder, may pose a danger to themselves or others, or are gravely disabled. SB 364 provides a number of helpful clarifications to the LPS Act, while upholding the original intent of these landmark civil rights statutes.