

## Memorandum

To : Mental Health Board

From : Ad Hoc Committee

Date : January 7, 2015

Re : Research structure for developing AOT recommendation

The following information summarizes the ad hoc committee's proposed approach to researching assisted outpatient treatment (AOT), as directed by the full Mental Health Board (MHB) at its October 1, 2014, meeting. The ad hoc committee recommends the MHB discuss each individual point below and determine consensus as appropriate.

### I. Main Question

Within the next six months, should the MHB recommend that the Board of Supervisors implement or reject assisted outpatient treatment (AOT) as authorized under AB 1421?

### II. Assumptions

1. The MHB recommendation could be either "support" or "reject," but the MHB decided voted at its October, 2014, meeting that the time is right for a decision one way or the other within the next six months.
2. The Board of Supervisors will consider the MHB recommendation in its own deliberations and supports this research.
3. Adoption is not implementation, so "readiness" need not reflect current conditions. Thus, the MHB could recommend adopt now and implement within, for example, one year.
4. This research will not duplicate the content or conclusions of the 2012 Feasibility Study Report.

### III. A Literature Review

*Goal #1. Review current studies on overall effectiveness of AOT in reducing the consequences of the mental illness suffered by the individuals eligible for AOT.*

*Goal #2. Review current studies of effectiveness of AOT in jurisdictions similar in size and demographics to Sacramento County. This review would emphasize established AOT programs in other states and any California AOT programs with measurable outcomes.*

Task #1. Compile research sources from peer reviewed journals, other California counties, and other sources.

Task #2. As a committee, cull sources for bias and come to agreement on each source's applicability to Sacramento County and the appropriate outcome indicators.

Task #3. Write summaries and analysis for each source used.

#### IV. A Case Study

*Goal #1. Determine what infrastructure enhancements would be required to make Sacramento County's mental health system and courts able to handle the added individuals they would have to serve if AOT were adopted.*

Task #1. Interview representatives of the mental health system, the court system, and law enforcement both in Sacramento and other counties.

Task #2. Estimate overall "cost" of AOT implementation and summarize in writing.

*Goal #2. Determine the present and future availability of county funds for AOT implementation, based on estimated costs and the ease or difficulty in redirecting funds from existing programs.*

Task #1. Interview representatives of the mental health system, the court system, and law enforcement both in Sacramento and other counties.

Task #2. Summarize present and future funding scenarios and report in writing.

*Goal #3. Determine the state of community readiness for AOT implementation.*

Task #1. Interview representatives of consumers and family members, both in Sacramento and other counties.

Task #2. Summarize the local politics of AOT adoption and implementation and report in writing.

*Goal #4. Determine whether any current alternatives to AOT affect the need for it.*

Task #1. Review findings of 2012 Feasibility Study Report.

Task #2. Interview representatives of the mental health system, the court system, both in Sacramento and other counties.

Task #3. Interview representatives of consumers and family members, both in Sacramento and other counties.

Task #4. Summarize the utility and cost-effectiveness of alternatives to AOT that are cited and report in writing.

#### V. Determine committee consensus on a recommendation

This task may or may not require a vote by the committee. The Mental Health Board should set an odd number for the committee membership to avoid ties. If the committee is split, there will be minority positions on written for the areas in which it is split.

## VI. Write executive summary

## VII. Timeline

1. Identify sources – by February MHB meeting (3 weeks)
2. Review sources and conduct interviews – by April MHB meeting (2 months)
3. Meet to set preliminary recommendations – by mid April
4. Write draft “analysis and application” portions of document – by June MHB meeting (2 months)
5. Meet to finalize recommendations – by mid June
6. Finalize “analysis and application” portions of document – by July MHB meeting (2 weeks)
7. Write executive summary – by August MHB meeting (one month)
8. Present written report to MHB – at August -MHB meeting