



# Mendocino County

## Legislation Text

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File #: 20-0513, Version: 1

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**To: Board of Supervisors**

**From:** Health and Human Services Agency

**Meeting Date:** June 23, 2020

**Department Contact:** Tammy Moss Chandler

**Phone:** 463-7774

**Department Contact:** Jenine Miller

**Phone:** 472-2341

**Item Type:** Consent Agenda

**Time Allocated for Item:** N/A

**Agenda Title:**

Approval of Mental Health Services Act Innovation Project: Tech for Trauma, and Authorization for the Health and Human Services Agency Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Director to Sign and Submit the Project Plan to the California Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission

**Recommended Action/Motion:**

Approve Mental Health Services Act Innovation Project: Tech for Trauma, and authorize the Health and Human Services Agency Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Director to sign and submit the project plan to the California Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission.

**Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:**

June 19, 2018, Item 4(al), Approval of MHSA Reversion Plan, including Approval of Innovation Plan Outline; April 9, 2019, Item 5(h), Approval of 2018-19 Annual Innovation Plan Update; November 5, 2019, Item 4(b), Approval of 2019-20 Annual Innovation Plan Update.

**Summary of Request:**

Mendocino County has a high proportion of Transitional Age Youth (TAY) between the ages of 16 and 25 who have a diagnosis of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). The Tech for Trauma Innovation Project (initially called Computer Program and Virtual Reality Applications for Services to Youth) has been in development over the course of three years, and aims to bring to Mendocino County a new modality of treatment for PTSD and co-occurring diagnoses of anxiety and depression. Through Tech for Trauma, the County can learn if therapeutic virtual reality may reduce barriers to treatment for TAY, and explore how best to pair virtual reality treatments with traditional modalities in order to reduce stress and suffering from PTSD. Depending on results, the use of virtual reality as a supplemental treatment modality may be extended to include adults.

The Tech for Trauma project has been the subject of public comment as part of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Reversion Plan (approved by the Board of Supervisors (BOS) on June 19, 2018), and as outlined in each of the Annual Updates to the BOS for 2018-19 and 2019-20 (approved by the BOS on April 9, 2019 and November 5, 2019). The fully developed MHSA Tech for Trauma Innovation Project Plan was posted for a 30-Day Public Comment Period from April 23, 2020 through May 24, 2020. The Behavioral Health Advisory Board held a Public Comment Hearing for Tech for Trauma on May 20, 2020, and public comment has been incorporated into the document and is posted online (see link below).

The Tech for Trauma project makes use of reversion funds that must be committed to an approved project before June 30, 2020, in order to avoid reversion to the State. Health and Human Services Agency Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) requests BOS approval and authorization for the BHRS Director to sign and submit the MHSA Innovation Project: Tech for Trauma to California's Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission for inclusion in its approval process for projects using reversion funds.

**Alternative Action/Motion:**

Return to staff for alternate handling.

**Supervisory District:** All

**vote requirement:** Majority

**Supplemental Information Available Online At:**

<https://www.mendocinocounty.org/home/showdocument?id=34961>

**Fiscal Details:**

**source of funding:** MHSA Innovation Reversion

**current f/y cost:** 20-21: \$160,000

**annual recurring cost:** average \$160,000

**budget clarification:** The total budget for this five-year project is \$800,000. The portion of available reversion funds allocated to Tech for Trauma is \$469,441, covering nearly all budgeted expenditures for the first three years. It is expected the remaining costs will be funded through new distributions of MHSA Innovation funds.

**Agreement/Resolution/Ordinance Approved by County Counsel:** N/A

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**CEO Liaison:** Darcie Antle, Deputy CEO

**CEO Review:** Yes

**CEO Comments:**

**FOR COB USE ONLY**

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Executed By: Atlas Pearson, Staff Assistant II

Date: June 24, 2020

Final Status: **Approved**

