December 13, 2019

ALL COUNTY LETTER (ACL) NO. 19-116
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (BH) INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 19-053

TO:  ALL CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS
     ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
     ALL TITLE IV-E AGREEMENT TRIBES
     COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM DIRECTORS
     COUNTY DRUG & ALCOHOL ADMINISTRATORS
     COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIRECTORS
     ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
     CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS OF CALIFORNIA
     CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
     CALIFORNIA REGIONAL CENTERS
     ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL CENTER AGENCIES
     DOR REGIONAL DIRECTORS
     COUNTY OFFICES OF EDUCATION SPECIAL EDUCATION LOCAL PLAN AREAS

SUBJECT:  AB 2083 (2018) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING GUIDANCE

AB 2083 (Chapter 815, Statutes of 2018) requires each county to develop and implement a memorandum of understanding (MOU) setting forth roles and responsibilities of agencies and other entities that serve children and youth in foster care who have experienced severe trauma. The purpose of the MOU is to ensure that children and youth in foster care receive coordinated, timely, and trauma-informed services.

Additionally, AB 2083 requires the state to develop guidance for counties, county offices of education, and regional centers with regard to developing the MOU. This letter includes this MOU guidance (see attachment). The MOU guidance contains a series of guiding concepts, along with critical questions and best practices to facilitate a collaborative MOU development process.
The MOU should represent the aligned and shared roles and responsibilities of the local agencies serving children and youth in foster care. The specified roles and responsibilities and provisions addressed in the MOU are referred to as the System of Care. The local execution of an MOU is a critical step in implementing a coordinated System of Care.

While AB 2083 focuses on children and youth in foster care who have experienced severe trauma, it reflects a priority to build a locally-governed interagency or interdepartmental model on behalf of all children and youth across California that have similar needs, that interact with and are served by multiple agencies.

Technical assistance in the development of the MOU, or regarding the MOU guidance document, is available from the Joint Interagency State Resolution Team (AB2083@chhs.ca.gov). Once completed, MOUs will be collected and posted to the California Health and Human Services Agency’s website.

Please submit your MOU to AB2083@chhs.ca.gov, in accessible format, by July 1, 2020.

We look forward to collectively working on this important initiative to implement a coordinated, timely, and trauma-informed system-of-care approach for foster children and youth who have experienced severe trauma. If you have questions regarding this correspondence, AB 2083, or to request technical assistance in the development of your MOU, please direct questions to AB2083@chhs.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Richard Figueroa, Acting Director
Department of Health Care Services

Kim Johnson, Director
California Department of Social Services
Dr. Stephanie Gregson,
Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction
California Department of Education

Nancy Bargmann, Director
Department of Developmental Services

Joe Xavier, Director
Department of Rehabilitation

ATTACHMENT