

May 6, 2003

## MH/MR COALITION

PO Box 60573, Harrisburg, PA 17106-0573

### BUDGET REQUEST Fiscal Year 2003 – 2004

#### RESTORE FUNDING FOR ESSENTIAL HUMAN SERVICES

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#### INVEST IN COMMUNITY- BASED MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL RETARDATION SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

**SUPPORT:**     REVENUE ENHANCEMENTS, INCLUDING TAX INCREASES IF NECESSARY,  
DEDICATED TO THE RESTORATION OF ESSENTIAL HUMAN SERVICES

**SUPPORT:**     ALLOCATING ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR:

- ✓ FULL RESTORATION OF VITAL HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAMS (including drug and alcohol treatment, Behavioral Health Services Initiative, domestic violence and rape crisis).
  - ✓ RESTORING FUNDING TO THE HUMAN SERVICES DEVELOPMENT FUND - \$33.3 M
  - ✓ A COLA FOR COMMUNITY MH/MR APPROPRIATIONS - \$23 M
  - ✓ A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR COMMUNITY MH/MR APPROPRIATIONS in FY 2002-2003 (to adjust for lack of COLA in current fiscal year) - \$23 M
  - ✓ ADDITIONAL MH/MR FUNDING FOR FY 2003 – 2004 (the first phase of a four- year commitment of \$120 M additional funding during FYs 2003-2007) - \$15 M

#### WHY RESTORE AND INVEST?

- \* *Key to Economic Investment in Local Communities*
- \* *Source of Workforce Development Opportunities*
- \* *Supporters of Pennsylvanians in Their Own Communities*

#### **A KEY TO ECONOMIC INVESTMENT IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES**

*“Every dollar a state spends on Medicaid pulls new federal dollars into the state – dollars that would not otherwise flow into the state. These new dollars pass from one person to another in successive rounds of spending... Economists call this “the multiplier effect.” (Families USA, January 2003) Community MH/MR funds are reinvested over and over again in the local economy through wages and purchases of supplies and services in the private sector.*

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For more information contact Pennsylvania Community Providers Association  
2400 Park Drive • Harrisburg, PA 17110  
Phone 717/657-7078 • FAX 717/657-3552  
www.paproviders.org • mail@paproviders.org

***A SOURCE OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES***

Thousands of employment opportunities exist in community MH/MR services and supports. State and federal funding can create a stable and qualified workforce – the key to quality.

***SUPPORTERS OF PENNSYLVANIANS IN THEIR OWN COMMUNITIES***

Community-based MH/MR services and supports offer lifelong supports and opportunities for a meaningful quality of life, in fulfillment of Pennsylvania and Federal laws.

***FAILURE TO FUND NOW WILL COST MORE IN THE FUTURE***

It will severely diminish a longstanding partnership between the Commonwealth, counties and private businesses that provides community-based services and supports and will shift responsibility to other, overburdened government agencies.

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THE MH/MR COALITION INCLUDES ALL OF THE MAJOR ASSOCIATIONS THAT REPRESENT MENTAL HEALTH AND/OR MENTAL RETARDATION PROVIDER AGENCIES AND COUNTIES IN PENNSYLVANIA: MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION IN PA (717.236.8110), MH/MR PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS OF PA (717.232.7554), PA ASSOCIATION OF REHABILITATION FACILITIES (717.657.7608), PA ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES FOR PEOPLE WITH MENTAL RETARDATION (717.236.2374), PA COMMUNITY PROVIDERS ASSOCIATION (717.657.7078), THE ARC-PA (717.234.2621), AND UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY OF PA (717.761.6129). FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT ANY OF THE ORGANIZATIONS LISTED.

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