

## QUALIFICATIONS

Mental Health Association in Los Angeles County  
1336 Wilshire Blvd., Second Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
(213) 413-1130  
Chief Executive Officer: Richard Van Horn  
Legal Status: Nonprofit Corporation  
Federal tax I.D. # 95-1881491

## CURRENT OPERATIONS

Established in 1924, the Mental Health Association in Los Angeles County (MHA) is a nonprofit corporation with a mission to "educate about mental illness, advocate for and serve mentally ill people." Recognized as the umbrella agency for diverse mental health interests in Los Angeles County, MHA is the only countywide mental health agency combining direct service, education and advocacy.

MHA is an affiliate of the National Mental Health Association (NMHA), one of the country's oldest mental health organizations, founded in 1909. NMHA and its 600 chapters are the nation's only citizen volunteer organizations concerned with all aspects of mental illness and mental health.

To meet the challenges of the future, the MHA Board of Directors adopted a five-year strategic plan in 1987, identifying five priorities for the agency. This planning, undertaken with the assistance of Cresap, a division of Tower-Perrin, gave the agency a unique opportunity to build on its existing roles and maximize its impact in the community. As part of the planning, the Board surveyed more than 100 mental health professionals, family members and community supporters to gain their input about the county's mental health needs and future directions for MHA. The agency's priorities are:

1. providing direct services for seriously mentally ill persons through community support programs
2. educating the public about the nature and treatment of mental illnesses
3. encouraging professional education of minorities to ensure the availability of trained professionals for the growing bilingual/bicultural population
4. advocating for the improved care of mentally ill persons
5. coordinating and supporting various mental health programs and research.

### Community Support Services

In 1973, MHA adapted its mission to include direct services to help persons recovering from mental illnesses re-adjust to community life. There are no fees for participating in any of

MHA's community support services.

MHA serves seriously mentally ill adults in all its community support programs; the agency served 2,100 individuals in 1988. The agency has regional offices and staff in Central Los Angeles, Long Beach, South Central Los Angeles, South Bay/Westside, San Gabriel Valley and San Fernando Valley to serve the entire county. MHA has 30 community support services staff, out of a total staff of 46.

Project Return, formed in 1980, is MHA's network of self-help clubs offering social opportunities, providing leadership experiences and encouraging problem solving in supportive environments. This federation has grown to 60 clubs, including six Spanish-speaking clubs, totalling 1,300 members.

Work Opportunities Project in Long Beach provides employment for recovering mentally ill people, along with a job club to help them develop work readiness skills. Currently, the project employs 29 seriously mentally ill in positions such as food preparers and peer advocates to the Homeless Assistance Program.

MHA's Homeless Assistance Program serves homeless mentally ill people in the Long Beach area, with a mobile outreach van and drop-in day center, where case management services are offered.

Oasis House is a vocational and social center serving seriously mentally ill individuals in South Central Los Angeles. MHA started this program at the request of Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health because of the severe lack of services in that community. The program has expanded through a State Department of Rehabilitation establishment grant and a three-year demonstration grant from the federal Office of Education.

About FACE (Families, Adolescents, Children and Elderly), one of MHA's newest programs, is a multi-generational, multi-cultural social center serving the San Gabriel Valley. Supported by special United Way funding, the program provides social and educational services for emotionally disturbed children as well as social activities for mentally ill senior citizens.

### Professional Education

In response to the critical shortage of bilingual/bicultural mental health professionals, MHA is developing a Professional Education Project. This model is designed to attract students to the mental health professions and to assist them in overcoming financial and social barriers to completing their education. The program offers an incentive fund used to repay student loans and summer employment. During the program's first summer, 45 students worked at 12 public and nonprofit mental health agencies.

## Public Education

The local mental health community has identified MHA as the most credible source for informing the public about mental illness. MHA's public education goals are to increase the general public's knowledge about mental illness and to reduce the stigma against persons suffering from mental illness.

One of MHA's most visible public education efforts is the Project Return Players, an improvisational theater group of men and women recovering from mental illness. This highly talented group performs across the county, using comedy to educate their diverse audiences about mental illnesses and the stigma associated with them.

Information and referrals are an important part of MHA's educational effort. Trained staff provide confidential telephone referrals and assistance to individuals seeking information and treatment.

MHA has three programs for educating children and youth about mental health. Expressing Feelings Through Art is an annual art contest and exhibit encouraging high school students to express their feelings and bringing to public attention the mental health needs of young people. In 1988, 125 students from Los Angeles city and county schools entered the contest. The Youth Award Project is an educational curriculum for elementary and junior high school students, currently used in 1,200 classrooms. Circle of Friends, published last summer, aids children in grades 1-3 in learning about developing self-esteem and making friends.

## Advocacy

In this effort, MHA works to ensure effective, humane treatment for all mentally ill persons in California. MHA's role is to provide the voice for persons who cannot always advocate on their own behalf, including the homeless mentally ill and emotionally disturbed children. MHA is active in the Los Angeles Advocates for Mental Health and the California Coalition for Mental Health.

## Institutional Coordination

As the link for the variety of mental health interests, MHA provides leadership in coordinating activities to strengthen mental health services and other mental health constituency groups. Currently, MHA is fostering the growth and development of NARSAD (National Alliance for Research for Schizophrenia and Depression) in Southern California through a matching grant and administrative support. During the early 1980s, MHA staff helped form the roots of the Alliance for the Mentally Ill throughout Los Angeles County.

(See Appendix A for MHA's table of organization, 1987-88 certified audit and 3/31/89 fiscal reporting sheets for annual revenues.)

## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The values and programs of MHA are derived in a direct line from the values and activities of its founder, Clifford Beers. Mr. Beers, a former patient who suffered all his adult life from bipolar illness, desired to found an organization which would totally reform the style and content of treatment of the severe mental illnesses. It is Mr. Beers' legacy that MHA desires to accomplish with its variety of community support programs and most especially through the Integrated Service Agency described in this proposal.

Historically, MHA's roots are imbedded in establishing service organizations. The agency was formed in 1924 to create the Los Angeles Child Guidance Clinic, now the oldest clinic in Los Angeles serving children with mental health needs. Following this tradition, MHA founded the San Fernando Valley Child Guidance Clinic in 1962.

MHA brings to this proposed project a heritage of establishing and successfully operating programs in the community. Over the past decade, the agency has achieved its most significant growth because of its willingness and capabilities for providing services that build on members' strengths and abilities. Having earned a reputation as a flexible provider, MHA has been approached by family groups and funding sources, such as the Alliance for the Mentally Ill and Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, to set up and deliver services in underserved areas of the county.

For MHA, the turning point in the transfer from a program/volunteer driven agency to a client-centered organization came in 1980 with the establishment of Project Return. Project Return is a mutual self-help and peer advocacy network with the purpose of empowering members to take control of their own lives.

Building on this shift toward client-centered services, MHA, in cooperation with AMI, designed and raised funds for the first Project Return Center (now called Step Up on Second Street) which opened in Santa Monica in 1985. This center was developed using the psychosocial clubhouse model and offers the same style of social, vocational and educational program proposed in the ISA Village. An important feature of Step Up on Second Street is its prominent location in the middle of Santa Monica's business district rather than being hidden away on back streets. Recently, Step Up was the only rehabilitation program in Southern California to be praised in Care of the Seriously Mentally Ill: A Rating of State Programs (Second Edition, 1988), a publication of the Public Citizen Health Research Group and the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill.

MHA's experience in founding Step Up led to further opportunities to start and run social and vocational programs. In 1987, MHA was requested by the LAC/DMH to seek Department of Rehabilitation

funding to provide a program in South Central Los Angeles that would add a work experience component to the Mental Health Initiative pre-vocational program already being run by DMH and the State Department of Rehabilitation. Adding vocational elements to MHA's existing social program turned out to be the beginning of Oasis House, a second clubhouse. As the recipient of one of eleven supported employment grants for mentally ill persons awarded in 1988 by the Office of Education nationwide, Oasis House now offers a spectrum of social and vocational opportunities funded by a partnership of county, state and federal dollars.

A further acknowledgement of MHA's service to the community came in 1986 when MHA received a major endowment from the estate of Burton G. Bettingen, one of Los Angeles' leading philanthropists. During her lifetime, Mrs. Bettingen supported literally hundreds of nonprofit organizations. From this list, she choose as beneficiaries the 13 organizations she considered most beneficial to the community. MHA was the sole agency serving seriously mentally ill adults selected; another recipient was the Los Angeles Child Guidance Clinic, the agency MHA founded in 1924.

Long Beach is, in a sense, a microcosm of MHA's evolution. MHA's presence in Long Beach dates back nearly 30 years, and MHA continues to be the only nonprofit mental health organization in Long Beach serving seriously mentally ill individuals with a range of community support programs.

At the core of MHA's programs in Long Beach is the empowerment of its members. There is an active peer advocacy movement, in which members are trained to assist other members in obtaining entitlements and gaining daily living skills. Members participate in all aspects from planning to leading activities. Members in the Work Opportunities Project participate in monthly employee meetings where they give feedback to staff.

Following MHA's tradition of member involvement, a panel of five peer advocates from Long Beach actively participated in the planning and review of the ISA proposal. As usual, these peer advocates provided valuable insights and ideas that came from their own experiences of struggling with the mental health system and barriers to independent living.

The history and activity described above is proof of MHA's willingness and ability to be in the forefront of new and effective services for people with severe mental illnesses. MHA has consistently been willing to serve the underserved, reach out to the most desperate and establish and successfully operate programs that have been hitherto only a gleam in the eye of a visionary volunteer or staff member.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

As the volunteers who control the policy of the association, MHA's

Board of Directors is the driving force behind the agency's mission and growth.

Board composition is a conscious amalgam of business and mental health professionals, family members, client members and citizen volunteers from the community. Mental health professional representation consists of a psychiatrist and psychologist. Business professionals represent fields such as accounting, law and education. Families members are parents and siblings. In the past, MHA's Board president has been a client representative.

The Board takes very seriously its responsibility as trustees of the fiscal and programmatic health of the agency. Between the full corporate board and Executive Committee, there are 18 meetings annually, with an average attendance of 75 percent.

(See Appendix A for Board roster.)

#### ISA POLICY COMMITTEE

One of the first tasks of MHA's ISA will be to establish the Policy Committee. The ISA Policy Committee will consist of one-third ISA members or other mental health consumers, one-third family members of ISA members or other consumers and one-third mental health professionals taken from a cross-section of disciplines.

The Policy Committee, along with MHA's Board of Directors, will act as the ISA's governing body. The Policy Committee will meet monthly and will have the responsibility of ensuring that the ISA meets all the mandated guidelines prescribed in Assembly Bill 3777. At least one client member and one family member from the ISA Policy Committee will be elected to the MHA Board of Directors to serve as communication links between these decision-making groups. As prescribed by the legislation, members serving on the Policy Committee may also be ISA members. One of the above shall be MHA's Board vice president, Community Support Services, and serve on the Board's Executive Committee.

COUNTY LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING  
LETTER FROM MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

March 21, 1989

D. Michael O'Connor, M.D.  
Director  
California State Department of Mental Health  
1600 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

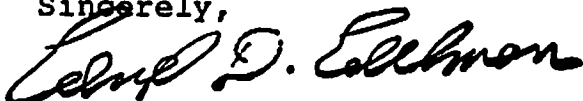
Dear Dr. O'Connor:

After consultation with the Director of Mental Health, this County affirmatively approves the establishment within the County of a pilot integrated service agency for the seriously mentally disordered. Be it understood that by this statement, our Board of Supervisors is not endorsing any particular proposal which may emanate from this County in response to the State's request for competitive proposals to operate a pilot integrated service agency for the seriously mentally disordered.

We understand that if a pilot agency is established within this County, there will be no required County match, redirection of existing mental health resources, or other costs to the County now or in the future for the pilot agency.

We further understand that establishment of a pilot agency within our County would be an expansion of services for the mentally disordered and is not intended to supplant or result in any reduction in the County's support for other services for the mentally disordered.

Sincerely,



Edmund D. Edelman  
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors





ATTEST: LARRY J. MONTEILH  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER —  
CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

*Lynda C. Walton*  
Deputy





# MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

2415 West Sixth Street, Los Angeles, CA 90057 (213) 738-4772

## Officers

Peter D. McDermott  
Chairperson

Terri Asanovich, M.A., M.F.C.C.  
Vice-Chairperson

Ilean Rabens, M.A.  
Secretary

Alex D. Aloia, Ph.D.  
Past Chairperson

March 24, 1989

D. Michael O'Connor, M.D.  
Director  
State Department of Mental Health  
1600 9th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

## Members

Supervisor Deane Dana  
Mercedes A. Diaz  
Adrienne Cadro-Hament, L.C.S.W.  
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John McDonough, D.B.A.  
Margarita D. Mendez, L.C.S.W.  
Donald Richardson  
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Marion Rubenstein  
Victoria A. Sofro  
Reggie L. Van Fleet, M.F.C.C.  
Roy Weekes, M.D.  
Lillian B. Wolff, M.D., M.P.H.

Dear Dr. O'Connor:

The Los Angeles County Mental Health Advisory Board, at our March 23, 1989 meeting, approved the application of the Mental Health Association to become a pilot integrated service agency for the seriously mentally disordered. This action is taken consistent with Article 5, Section 5814 of AB 3777.

## Staff

Mary J. Mahon, M.A.  
Executive Assistant

Terry G. Lewis  
Secretary

The MHAB supports the development of innovative new programs to address the needs of the mentally ill. It is urgent, with our large and varied population and critical need for additional mental health services, that we do everything possible to develop the most effective approaches. It is important that these pilot projects be demonstrated in large counties so that we can achieve the maximum benefit for our population. We have followed the development of the integrated service system model with great interest. We will enthusiastically support and work with any and all pilot projects for the integrated service system in our County, our Department of Mental Health and our Board of Supervisors to assure the success of these projects.

We look forward to your positive consideration of all proposals submitted from Los Angeles County.

D. Michael O'Connor  
March 24, 1989  
Page 2

Sincerely,

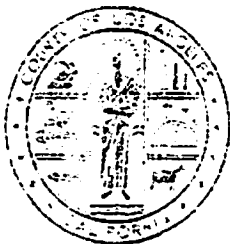


Peter D. McDermott  
Chairperson  
Mental Health Advisory Board

PDMcD:mjm (Ab 27)

cc: Director, Los Angeles County  
Department of Mental Health  
Chief Deputy, Department of Mental  
Health  
Board of Supervisors  
Chief Administrative Officer

LETTERS OF SUPPORT



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

822 HALL OF ADMINISTRATION / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012 / (213) 974-4444  
FAX (213) 626-6941

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

PETER F. SCHABARUM  
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DEANE DANA  
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

**DEANE DANA**  
SUPERVISOR, FOURTH DISTRICT

April 27, 1989

Richard Van Horn  
Executive Director  
Mental Health Association  
1336 Wilshire Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Mr. Van Horn:

It is with great enthusiasm that I write this letter in support of the Mental Health Association (MHA) Integrated Service Agency (ISA) proposal.

As the County Supervisor for the Fourth Supervisorial District in Los Angeles County, I concur with the MHA assessment that Long Beach is an appropriate location to operate a pilot integrated service agency. While many communities would benefit from such a program, I feel that the selection of Long Beach would be particularly appropriate.

The MHA has long worked with Los Angeles County to bring services to the residents of Long Beach. Through operation of Project Return and The Homeless Assistance Project, MHA has attempted to fill a void through operation of innovative programs which reach out to those in need. Through this type of intervention, MHA has been successful in reducing the disabilities which result from mental illness. But even more important are the individual success stories which have enabled participants to lead enriched lives in the community. The MHA ISA proposal is significant in that it is a comprehensive approach to dealing with an individual's situation. Incorporated in the MHA proposal are housing, work, education, and recreational programs as well as involvement of key family members. This formula is a prescription for a successful program.

I congratulate the MHA for their innovative proposal and wish you every success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Deane Dana".

DEANE DANA  
Supervisor, Fourth District  
County of Los Angeles

DD:ac



LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA  
90802

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CIVIC CENTER PLAZA  
333 WEST OCEAN BOULEVARD

April 24, 1989

ERNIE KELL  
MAYOR  
213/590-6801

Mr. Richard Van Horn  
Chief Executive Officer  
Mental Health Association  
in Los Angeles County  
1336 Wilshire Blvd., Second Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Mr. Van Horn:

I am pleased to endorse your proposal to the State Department of Mental Health for an Integrated Service Agency.

Our city is in the midst of a revitalization, and we are striving to make Long Beach a model community for all our residents. We would welcome a model method for helping the mentally ill citizens of Long Beach lead enriched lives as members of our community.

I admire the commitment of both your board and staff to the mentally ill people in our city, and I share your evident concern for improving care for them. Through our funding, we are partners, along with the County, in serving the homeless mentally ill. A member of your Board of Directors served on my Task Force on the Homeless and is now chair of my permanent Advisory Committee of the Homeless.

I pledge our continued cooperation. Please let me know how I can be of assistance.

Cordially,

Ernie Kell  
MAYOR

EK:jrm



# CITY OF LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

333 WEST OCEAN BOULEVARD

LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802

(213) 590-6711

JAMES C. HANKLA  
CITY MANAGER

April 27, 1989

Richard Van Horn  
Chief Executive Officer  
Mental Health Association  
in Los Angeles County  
1336 Wilshire Blvd., Second Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Mr. Van Horn:

Your proposal to the State Department of Mental Health to establish and operate an Integrated Service Agency in Long Beach has my full support.

Long Beach will make an ideal location for your proposed ISA in many ways. With a population of 400,000, we are the second largest metropolitan area in Los Angeles County. We are a self-contained metropolis, with a vast diversity of ethnicity and socio-economic groups. Any model tested here could easily be replicated in other urban areas of California.

MHA has proven to be an excellent provider of services, offering our mentally ill residents an array of beneficial programs to enable them to live with dignity and purpose in our community.

Your demonstrated capabilities combined with the Long Beach environment should be a dynamic match for testing a new model of service delivery.

I wish you success in obtaining the funding you seek.

Sincerely,

  
JAMES C. HANKLA  
CITY MANAGER



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
CIVIC CENTER PLAZA  
333 WEST OCEAN BOULEVARD  
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802  
April 25, 1989

EVAN ANDERSON BRAUDE  
COUNCILMAN FIRST DISTRICT  
213/590-6919

Richard Van Horn, CEO  
Mental Health Association  
in Los Angeles County  
1336 Wilshire Blvd., Second Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90017

Dear Mr. *Richard* Van Horn

I wholeheartedly support your proposal to the State Department of Mental Health for an Integrated Service Agency.

With the recent closures of mental health facilities in the Southern California area, the need for services provided by The Mental Health Association in Los Angeles County is greater than ever. Your program has brought to Long Beach the first non-profit program specifically for mental ill individuals and the only mobile outreach and drop-in center for homeless mentally ill persons. With your latest project, through your partnership with HUD, you will be adding needed permanent housing for chronically mentally ill people. These outstanding programs will be valuable to the comprehensive approach you plan for your ISA.

I want to commend the Association for your dedicated efforts, and I look forward to you expanded presence in Long Beach. If I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

EVAN ANDERSON BRAUDE  
Councilmember, First District

EAB/lr





OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, SIXTH DISTRICT  
333 WEST OCEAN BOULEVARD  
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802

CLARENCE SMITH  
COUNCILMAN  
213/590-6816

April 26, 1989

Richard Van Horn, Chief Executive Officer  
Mental Health Association  
in Los Angeles County  
1336 Wilshire Blvd., Second Floor  
Los Angeles, Ca 90017

Dear Mr. Van Horn:

I support your proposal to the State Department of Mental Health to establish an Integrated Service Agency in the city of Long Beach.

The Mental Health Association already has made a tremendous impact in our city. You have demonstrated a keen understanding of the needs of our mentally ill residents and a deep commitment to improving their lives. You have developed strong ties with other organizations in our community, such as the Long Beach Area Coalition for the Homeless, Disabled Resources Center, the Downtown Long Beach Association and the Apartment Owners Association.

I am pleased the City has been able to support your fine work, through our funding for your project serving homeless, mentally ill people.

I wish you success in this worthwhile endeavor.

Sincerely,

CLARENCE SMITH, Councilman  
Sixth District

CS:nmd

SACRAMENTO ADDRESS  
5050 STATE CAPITOL  
95814

DISTRICT OFFICE  
16921 S WESTERN AVENUE  
SUITE 201  
GARDENA, CA 90247-5296



RALPH C. DILLS  
STATE SENATOR

CHAIR  
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

# California State Senate

SENATE COMMITTEES  
CHAIR GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION  
CHAIR SUBCOMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS  
APPROPRIATIONS  
EDUCATION

JOINT COMMITTEES  
CHAIR STATES ECONOMY  
RULES  
FAIRS ALLOCATION & CLASSIFICATION  
REFUGEE SETTLEMENT INTERNATIONAL  
MIGRATION & COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT

SELECT COMMITTEES  
MOBILE HOMES  
CALIFORNIA WINE INDUSTRY  
GOVERNMENTAL EFFICIENCY

SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON  
SOLID & HAZARDOUS WASTE

COMMISSION ON TOURISM

April 24, 1989

Richard Van Horn, CEO  
Mental Health Association  
in Los Angeles County  
1336 Wilshire Blvd. 2nd Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Mr. Van Horn:

Your proposal to the State Department of Mental Health to establish an Integrated Service Agency in Long Beach has my full support.

An ISA operated by the Mental Health Association would be a beneficial addition to my district. You have designed an insightful, thorough approach, one that combines the necessary services to help mentally ill individuals with their disability while offering them opportunities to reach toward more fulfilling lives as members of our community.

Both your proposed ISA and your current services reflect your keen understanding of the needs of mentally ill people and your deep commitment to improving their lives. I commend you for your dedication.

Please let me know how I can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Ralph C. Dills in cursive script.  
Ralph C. Dills

RCD/tb

STATE OF  
CALIFORNIA



DAVE ELDER

April 26, 1989

Richard Van Horn  
Chief Executive Officer  
Mental Health Association  
1336 Wilshire Boulevard, Second Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Mr. Van Horn:

Your proposal to the State Department of Mental Health, to establish an Integrated Service Agency (ISA) in Long Beach, has my support.

The Mental Health Association (MHA) has a well-established history of serving the mentally ill in the Fifty-seventh Assembly District. For more than a decade, your services have had a positive impact on their lives. Since 1980, the Association has operated Project Return, one of the state's first self-help programs for recovering mentally ill people. In the past few years, MHA has expanded its services in Long Beach, adding the first work-training project for mentally ill individuals and the only outreach and drop-in services for homeless mentally ill people.

My best wishes for your continued successes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dave Elder".

DAVE ELDER  
Assemblyman, 57th District

DAE:NM:ch

April 27, 1989

Richard Van Horn  
Chief Executive Officer  
Mental Health Association  
in Los Angeles County  
1336 Wilshire Blvd., Second Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Richard,

I was pleased to serve as part of your planning committee for the Integrated Service Agency. We have drawn up a blueprint for what I believe will be an exciting and effective pilot for meeting mentally ill individuals' needs associated with their illness and enriching their lives. Your proposal has my highest endorsement.

Our planning reflected MHA's insight and belief in a team approach. The planning team you assembled included a psychiatrist, psychologist and social worker, along with my representation of the families. I understand that you also solicited the input of your members in Long Beach, and received an enthusiastic response.

AMI and MHA have enjoyed a long and rewarding history of cooperation in Los Angeles County. It is fitting that you have the AMI's support for your proposal.

You and I have worked together for reform of the mental health system to improve care for mentally ill individuals of California. This is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate an innovative alternative, and I can think of no organization better qualified to carry this out than MHA.

On a personal note, my son is now a member of MHA's Work Opportunity Project in Long Beach, and he has benefitted from the individual attention and support found in all your programs.

The ISA pilot needs MHA's convictions and creativity. I join the Los Angeles County AMI in urging the State Department of Mental Health's approval of your proposal.

Sincerely,



Donald J. Richardson  
President Emeritus  
National Alliance for the  
Mentally Ill



# Los Angeles County - Alliance for the Mentally Ill

66 Hurbut • Pasadena, CA 91105 • (818) 441-0208  
17707 Studebaker Road • Cerritos, CA 90701 • (213) 860-5423

## Affiliates

Pauline Gustavson  
AMI: Beach Cities

Isabel Gonzalez  
AMI: East Los Angeles

Ron Herman  
AMI: East San Gabriel Valley

William F. Davis  
AMI: Glendale

Mary Tippet  
AMI: Inglewood

Vince and Kay Beck  
AMI: Long Beach

Herbert J. Barr  
AMI: Los Angeles

Maureen Wells  
AMI: North San Fernando Valley

Frances Raabe  
AMI: Norwalk

Richard Brandon Miller  
AMI: Orange

Sara Shatford  
AMI: San Gabriel Valley

Mary Bowman  
Dolly Reid  
AMI: South Bay

Ann McCune  
Juliette Sallis  
AMI: Southeast

Madelon Ficks  
AMI: Van Nuys

Susan Dempsay  
AMI: Westside & Coastal Friends

Virginia Wardwell  
President

Peggy Good  
Grace Smith  
Vice President

Mary Lou Bell  
Recording Secretary

Jean Sanchez  
Corr. Secretary

Donald Richardson  
Founder

April 26, 1989

Richard Van Horn, CEO  
Mental Health Association  
in Los Angeles County  
1336 Wilshire Blvd., Second Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Richard,

The Los Angeles County Alliance for the Mentally Ill strongly believes in the Mental Health Association's capabilities for designing and operating an ISA. We are the countywide coordinating group of the 18 AMI chapters in Los Angeles County. Many of our chapters have benefited from MHA's unwavering support for AMI and our mentally ill family members.

The AMIs in Los Angeles County, like other family groups throughout the state, have been at the forefront in pushing for a comprehensive system of services. With an opportunity at hand to test such a model, we feel it is imperative that the agency selected share the values we consider most crucial to the ISA's success.

MHA distinguishes itself as that organization. Your philosophies and priorities in providing services embody the basic beliefs behind the ISA. You understand and acknowledge the role that parents and members must play for an effective treatment process.

As you demonstrated when you joined in partnership with the AMIs to start Step Up on Second Street in Santa Monica, you have the expertise to design an innovative program and the efficiency to get it off the ground.

Your conscientiousness, capabilities and commitment make you the ideal candidate to test an ISA. We urge the State Department of Mental Health to fund your proposal.

Sincerely,

Virginia Wardwell  
Chairperson

# Los Angeles Network of Mental Health Clients

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903 7th Street #6  
Santa Monica, CA 90403

OFFICE

~~2916 W. 8th Street~~  
~~Room 304~~  
~~Los Angeles, CA 90005~~

Richard Van Horn  
Mental Health Association  
in Los Angeles County  
1336 Wilshire Blvd., Second Floor

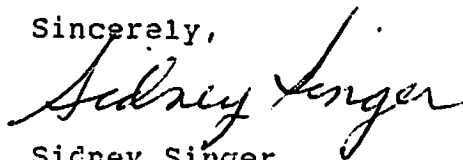
Dear Richard,

On behalf of the Los Angeles Network of Mental Health Clients, I am happy to endorse your proposal to the State Department of Mental Health.

Your philosophies on working with clients make it easy for us to support your project. One of our basic functions is to promote self-help and mutual support, and MHA has been a trailblazer in this area with Project Return. Many of us in the Los Angeles Network, including myself, have been active in Project Return. Throughout your programs, MHA recognizes clients' capabilities and creates an environment where growth is encouraged. In all your services, clients are treated with equality and respect. For all these reasons, you have earned our respect and trust.

We feel these types of qualities you possess will result in an ISA that truly benefits clients and enables them to move towards self reliance.

Sincerely,



Sidney Singer  
Chairperson

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

ROBERTO QUIROZ, M.S.W.  
DIRECTOR



SOUTH BAY/LONG BEACH  
SERVICE AREA No. 4

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

747 EAST 223rd STREET, CARSON, CALIFORNIA 90745

TELEPHONE: (213) 618-6870

April 26, 1989

Richard Van Horn  
Chief Executive Officer  
Mental Health Association  
in Los Angeles County  
1336 Wilshire Blvd., Second Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Richard,

As chairperson of the Long Beach Service Area Advisory Committee (SAAC), I am writing to offer our endorsement to your Integrated Service Agency proposal to the State Department of Mental Health.

We are the volunteer group, made up of family members, clients, professionals and other concerned citizens, advising the local district of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health. Our role makes us acutely aware of the need for a comprehensive system of services for the mentally ill people of our area.

Because MHA is an active member of our SAAC, we are well aware of your client-centered approach to programming and the emphasis you place on coordinating services among agencies to offer the best possible services for the mentally ill people of our community.

All of your programs--Project Return, Work Opportunities and Homeless Assistance Project--are built on your clients' needs. I personally have been impressed with each of these programs during my visits to them.

Equally impressive is your insight into the clients' needs for ongoing contact and your staff's willingness to stand by them and go out of their way for them.

The SAAC values the contributions MHA has already made to the mental health community in Long Beach and looks forward to your continuing efforts.

Sincerely,

Virginia Wardwell, Chairperson

# LONG BEACH AREA COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

c/o MHA, 1401 Chestnut Ave, 3rd Floor  
Long Beach, CA 90813

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April 27, 1989

Richard Van Horn, CEO  
Mental Health Association  
in Los Angeles County  
1336 Wilshire Blvd., Second Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Mr. Van Horn:

The Long Beach Area Coalition for the Homeless is pleased to add our support for your proposal to the State Department of Mental Health for an Integrated Service Agency.

Your involvement with us illustrates the leadership and commitment your agency brings to the Long Beach community. MHA has been an active member of the Coalition since our inception in August, 1987 and has emerged as one of our leaders. Your Regional Director is our current secretary, and last year, a MHA board member was the Coalition's chairperson. Among your other contributions, MHA was instrumental in the development and production of a resource guide to community services for the Long Beach area.

We think your Homeless Assistance Project (HAP) is a fitting example of MHA's approach to solving the problems of the mentally ill people in our community. In response to a need for services specifically for homeless mentally ill people, MHA began HAP as a mobile outreach program, adding a drop-in center and case management services to meet clients' additional needs.

The members of the Coalition believe MHA's presence has enhanced the service delivery system in Long Beach. We look forward to your expanded services and to continuing to work with you to improve services in our community.

Sincerely,



Diane Johnson  
Vice Chairperson





Public Affairs  
515 South Flower Street  
Mailing Address: Box 2679 - T.A.  
Los Angeles, California 90051  
Telephone 213 486 3384

Albert Greenstein  
Manager  
Media Relations

April 21, 1989

Richard Van Horn  
Chief Executive Officer  
Mental Health Association  
in Los Angeles County  
1336 Wilshire Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Richard:

Providing adequate care for the mentally ill is one of the great unmet needs in Los Angeles County, as you know only too well. For many years, ARCO has supported the efforts of the Mental Health Association through foundation grants, corporate contributions, and volunteer involvement. Speaking as a member of the MHA board of directors and as an employee of ARCO, I am proud of the many initiatives that MHA has taken over the years to promote mental health in the county. The Integrated Service Agency proposal which MHA is preparing is another example of the leadership that ARCO has come to expect from MHA in this field. We are particularly pleased that the MHA's ISA would service the Long Beach area, where ARCO Transportation Company, one of our major divisions, is headquartered, and where ARCO plays a role as an important corporate citizen. Any effort to improve the quality of life in the Long Beach area is greatly welcomed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Albert Greenstein". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".



April 24, 1989

Mr. Richard Van Horn  
Chief Executive Officer  
Mental Health Association  
in Los Angeles County  
1336 Wilshire Boulevard, 2nd Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Mr. Van Horn:

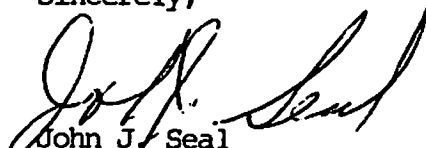
Over the past year, the Mental Health Association in Los Angeles County and members of the Apartment Association, California Southern Cities, have developed a relationship for securing decent, permanent housing for mentally ill people. We are looking forward to expanding our relationship to your planned Integrated Service Agency.

As a result of our partnership, nearly 60 mentally ill individuals, many of whom had been homeless, have found a permanent place to live. The key to the success of this endeavor has been your staff's ongoing involvement, which has alleviated concerns of our association members. Your staff has assured apartment owners that rent and utilities are paid on time, have been available for any concerns owners have had and have visited these mentally ill individuals regularly. I am pleased to learn you are incorporating these elements in your housing plans for your ISA.

There is increasing interest on the part of our membership to work with MHA. Your staff's presentation to our association in March received an overwhelming response from our membership. I understand some of our owners and managers are now initiating the contact with your agency.

Our best wishes to you for success with your proposal to the State Department of Mental Health.

Sincerely,

  
John J. Seal  
Executive Director

JJS:djs