



## **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD ACTION ITEM – NOVEMBER 5, 2020**

### **REPORT BACK ON HOUSING CONSERVATORSHIP PROCEDURE PILOT PROGRAM BOARD LETTER**

In 2018, the Governor signed Senate Bill (SB) 1045, which allowed certain counties, including San Diego County, the ability to implement a pilot conservatorship procedure – known as a “housing conservatorship” – for eligible individuals who are unable to care for their own health and well-being due to serious mental illness and substance use disorder. The law was later amended in 2019 by SB 40 (Chapter 467), which added several procedural changes intended to allow participating counties to further tailor their efforts to the target population. In an action brought forward by Supervisor Jacob and Supervisor Fletcher on October 29, 2019 (04), the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) directed the Chief Administrative Officer to develop a conservatorship procedure pilot program, as outlined by SB 1045 and SB 40, and report back to the Board with recommendations for implementation in one year.

As outlined by SB 1045/SB 40, this new housing conservatorship would allow counties to place eligible individuals who routinely end up in emergency rooms, psychiatric facilities, or jail on a conservatorship that focuses on providing supportive housing and intensive wraparound services to keep individuals out of these systems and focus on their health and well-being.

As required by SB 1045/SB 40, each county named in the legislation was to establish a “Housing Conservatorship Working Group” (Working Group) to evaluate the effectiveness of the new conservatorship law in serving conservatees with serious mental illness and substance use disorders. The San Diego County Working Group was established and met to evaluate the requirements of SB 1045/SB 40 and develop recommendations for implementation.

This Board Letter presents the Working Group’s findings and a recommendation to serve this population by leveraging Care Coordination work through the Behavioral Health Continuum of Care and forgo implementation of SB 1045/SB 40 in San Diego County.

**It is THEREFORE, staff’s recommendation that your Board support approval of the recommendations to build upon existing Care Coordination work through the Behavioral Health Continuum of Care and forgo implementation of SB 1045/SB 40 in San Diego County.**