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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COUNTY RECEIVES \$3,912,676 FOR MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS **Funding will Expand Crisis Stabilization and Residential Treatment Programs**

December 7, 2015 (San Leandro, CA) - Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services (BHCS) was awarded \$3,912,676 in Fourth Round Funding from the California Health Facilities Financing Authority (CHFFA). The grant will enable BHCS to expand its crisis support services through the development of a new Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) that will be co-located with a new crisis residential treatment (CRT) program serving the North Area of Alameda County.

“As a county, we lack sufficient beds for mental health services in the communities that need them the most,” said Manuel Jiménez, Director of Behavioral Health Care Services. “Alameda County’s population is more than 1.5 million and our mental health supports have not kept pace with our community’s diverse mental health needs. The State’s *Investing in Mental Health Wellness Grant Program* is a needed step in the right direction.”

Alameda County currently has 32 beds to serve those experiencing a mental health crisis. This grant award increases CSU beds by 12 and CRT beds by 14. The need for these services was in recognition of the geographical size of Alameda County and the challenges of accessing services in mid-County when you live in North County. North County residents will be better served by having CSU/CRT services in their community. This increase supports BHCS’s ultimate goal of expanding the county’s number of beds to 108 at facilities in West Oakland, Fremont, Hayward, San Leandro, and Livermore.

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The mission of Behavioral Health Care Services is to maximize the recovery, resilience and wellness of all eligible Alameda County residents who are developing or experiencing serious mental health, alcohol or drug concerns.

