

OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE

Staff Presentation to the House Finance Committee

FY 2012 Revised & FY 2013 Budgets

March 21, 2012

MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE

- Directed by statute to: ensure the legal, civil, and special rights of people with mental illness
- Provide legal representation at involuntary commitment hearings (mandated by the US constitution)

MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE

- Monitor procedures & policies at in-patient treatment facilities & community based health centers
- Protect the treatment rights of criminally insane and inmates at the forensic hospital

MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE

- ❑ Statutory Authority in Section 40.1-5-13 through 40-1-5-25 of the Rhode Island General Laws
- ❑ Duties are outlined in Section 40.1-5.22
- ❑ Rights and powers are in Section 40.1-5-24
- ❑ Additional duties in Section 40.1-24.5-12

FY 2012 REVISED SUMMARY

| | Enacted | Dept Req | Gov. Rev. | Change/ Enacted |
|------------------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Salaries & Benefits | \$457,606 | \$449,937 | \$398,491 | (\$59,115) |
| Operating | 9,312 | 12,055 | 11,081 | 1,769 |
| Contract Services | 1,800 | 3,600 | 3,600 | 1,800 |
| Total | \$468,718 | \$465,592 | \$413,172 | (\$55,546) |

FY 2013 SUMMARY

| | Enacted | Dept Req | Gov. Rec | Change/ Enacted |
|------------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Salaries & Benefits | \$457,606 | \$496,264 | \$434,239 | (\$23,367) |
| Operating | 9,312 | 12,055 | 11,080 | 1,768 |
| Contract Services | 1,800 | 1,800 | 1,800 | - |
| Total | \$468,718 | \$510,119 | \$447,119 | (\$21,599) |

STAFFING

- Governor recommends current level of 3.7 positions
 - Mental Health Advocate
 - Administrative Assistant
 - Staff Attorneys - 1.7 positions
 - Leaves a 0.7 position vacant until April 2012
 - Savings from lower starting salary
 - Using updated rates

PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES

- Governor includes \$1,500 in FY 2012 & FY 2013
- At the enacted level
- As needed basis
- Range \$800 to \$2,000 for an evaluation

PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES – HISTORICAL SPENDING

| Fiscal Year | Actual |
|-------------|---------|
| 2011 | \$1,000 |
| 2010 | \$800 |
| 2009 | \$4,300 |
| 2008 | \$4,937 |
| 2007 | \$5,639 |

STENOGRAPHY SERVICES

- Governor includes \$3,600 in FY 2012 revised recommendation
 - 2 appeals that required transcription services
- Enacted level of \$1,800 in FY 2013

OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE

Staff Presentation to the House Finance Committee

FY 2012 Revised & FY 2013 Budgets

March 21, 2012