



April 9, 2020

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Michelle Greene

Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

RE: Assisted Outpatient Treatment Program Support

Dear County Board of Supervisors,

The City of Goleta is pleased to present this letter of support for the County's Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) program and appreciates the Board's consideration to continue the AOT program past the completion of the pilot program.

AOT fills an important gap in the mental health continuum of care, mandating outpatient treatment for those in our community suffering the most serious illness. The County of Santa Barbara program has reduced crisis events, incarcerations, and homelessness for a significant number of persons in the pilot program. Each crisis event that is avoided results in significant cost savings to many public and non-profit organizations countywide, while supporting recovery for those in the program.

City of Goleta's Neighborhood Services and Public Safety Department staff participate in the County's Stepping Up Initiative, which supports AOT. The reductions in incarcerations, psychiatric emergency room visits, and psychiatric hospitalizations for AOT participants are a benefit to those served, as well as the overall community.

We are glad to see the Behavioral Wellness Department including AOT in their Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021 budget and we urge you to support continuation of the program.

Sincerely,

Michelle Greene
City Manager