

Lenzi, Chelsea

From: Roxanne Erskine <erskine@SKestatemangement.com>
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2017 9:30 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Behavioral Wellness Budget Cuts

I am concerned that the Director of Behavior Wellness is apparently recommending to cut funding entirely to the brand new AOT (aka Laura's Law) Pilot Program (which is already working miracles) AND to cut .6 MIL FOR HOSPITAL BEDS, AND 1.5 MIL FOR IMD (locked psychiatric hospital) BEDS which our county contracts for across the state.

Approximately half the people with serious mental illness experience anosognosia, damage to the parts of the brain that give us our self-perception. Our very own Santa Barbara Behavioral Wellness Manager of the ACT Program which has been serving people under AOT delivered a report yesterday (Friday April 13th) to the County's Crisis Action Team documenting how successful the program has been so far in assisting individuals who were resistant to treatment. Apparently 17 persons with mental health disorders have been gently "engaged" and offered help.

As the parent of a mentally ill young adult, I am asking you to please vote to save this vital program.

Thank you.

Roxanne Erskine

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**Sharon Kennedy Estate Management**  
**5951 Encina Road, Suite 106**  
**Goleta, CA 93117**  
**(805) 681-1347 ext. 4**