

## **ADMHS Awards First Two MHSA Contracts**

(Santa Barbara, CA – November 17, 2006) – As a result of a competitive bidding process, the Santa Barbara County Department of Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services (ADMHS) has awarded community-based organizations contracts to implement two new programs funded through the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA). The contracts will be finalized upon the conclusion of successful negotiations with the contracting agencies and approval of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors.

The successful contractor for the SPIRIT program is Child Abuse Listening and Mediation (CALM). Good Samaritan Shelter Inc. has been selected to implement the Bridge to Care program.

The SPIRIT program will provide intensive services to children and youth at severe risk for out-of-home placement, hospitalization and involvement in the criminal justice system. The Bridge to Care program will serve adults with co-occurring mental health and substance abuse conditions. Both programs reflect the MHSA mandate of reaching under-served populations with new and innovative services.

The process for the selection of contractors for the remaining MHSA programs is ongoing. Further announcements regarding program implementation will be made in the near future.