2013 WORK PLAN PRIORITIES

The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) is based on the belief that the mental health system can and must be transformed. This is already happening in mental health as well as in other areas of the health care system. The implementation of the Federal Affordable Care Act presents rich opportunities to transform the entire health care system through integration. The reorganization of state administration of mental health and substance abuse, the continued realignment of these services at the county level, and the strengthening of stakeholder participation in planning and of statewide evaluation, oversight, and accountability through AB 1467 are a few additional examples of large-scale opportunities for improving mental health services to Californians. The Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) built the following work plan with consideration of these opportunities. The MHSOAC will pursue the following priorities as it exercises its statutory oversight role in this changing health care environment. These priorities are not listed in order of importance.

Priority 1: Exercise an active role in policy development

a. Develop/collaborate on regulations, guidelines and policies with partners and stakeholders, for example:
   1. Update PEI program and expenditure guidelines
   2. Collaboratively develop and communicate Annual Update instructions
   3. Collaboratively develop and communicate 3-year Integrated Plan elements
   4. Develop policy recommendations that emerge from community forums and evaluation findings.
   5. Review Annual Updates and three-year program and expenditure plans for possible policy implications
b. Endorse and promote strategies that transform the mental health system, including systems and services integration
c. Monitor and report to the MHSOAC the status of implementation of AB 109 and its impact on the MHSA.
d. Monitor Federal Health Care Reform to maximize the positive impact on behavioral health and the public mental health system
   1. Seek opportunities to include mental health care and substance abuse services in all facets of health care reform
Priority 2: Ensure evaluation regarding the effectiveness of services being provided and achievement of the outcome measures

a. Complete the development and initiate implementation of an Evaluation Master Plan
   1. Develop a work plan for implementation of the Evaluation Master Plan
   2. Design PEI evaluation framework and initiate PEI evaluation as appropriate
b. Encumber $875,000 annual appropriation to support Evaluation Master Plan priorities
c. Plan and develop a framework for statewide evaluation of the Innovation component
d. Identify core, uniform priority indicators for all MHSA components
   1. Collaborate with DHCS re: performance outcomes for EPSDT
   2. Jointly develop with DHCS and in collaboration with CMHDA and California Mental Health Planning Council performance outcomes for CSS and PEI
e. Monitor evaluation contract deliverables
f. Coordinate/collaborate with CHHS on evaluation efforts
g. Update the policy paper: Accountability through Evaluative Efforts Focusing on Oversight, Accountability and Evaluation
h. Review Annual Updates, three-year program and expenditure plans, and Annual Revenue and Expenditure Reports for potential implications for evaluation purposes

Priority 3: Exercise financial oversight over the Mental Health Services Act Fund to ensure compliance with statutes and regulations; report to the Administration and the legislature any assessment, concerns or recommendations

a. Produce semiannual financial reports (January and May)
   1. Continue to monitor volatility of the Mental Health Services Act Fund
   2. Report on the Mental Health Services Act state administration fund
   3. Monitor and analyze county fiscal reports (e.g., Annual Revenue and Expenditure Report and the Annual Update)
   4. Monitor statewide PEI expenditures
   5. Monitor prudent reserve and fund reversion and their policies
b. Work with the Department of Finance and the MHSOAC fiscal consultant on projections of the fund condition
c. Annually review and revise policies based on financial data and analyses
Priority 4: Ensure that the perspective and participation of diverse community members reflective of California populations and others suffering from severe mental illness and their family members is a significant factor in all of the Commission’s decisions and recommendations

a. Continue quarterly Community Forums and provide the Commission a summary and report of potential policy implications at the Commission meeting following each forum
   1. Encourage stakeholder contractors, community agencies and counties to facilitate attendance at the forums
b. Diversify the methods by which the MHSOAC receives input from people with lived experience of mental illness
   1. Expand and diversify participation in MHSOAC committees, stakeholder contracts, and MHSOAC meetings to the fullest extent
   2. Expand methods by which people with lived experience can provide input (in person, online, written, and other)
c. Schedule semi-annual reports from contractors to the Commission on the status of stakeholder contract efforts and results
d. Conduct an initial organizational (MHSOAC) self-assessment of Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) related activities and identify possible gaps.

Priority 5: Ensure collecting and tracking of data and information

a. Review Annual Updates, Annual Revenue and Expenditure Reports, and three-year program and expenditure plans and cull critical information
b. Develop data-driven tracking system
c. Continue to work with DHCS, CMHDA, et al to ensure access to adequate data

Priority 6: Facilitate relevant and effective training and technical assistance

a. Participate on training and technical assistance advisory committee if convened by DHCS and CiMH
b. Collaborate with DHCS on training and technical assistance priorities and contracts, especially related to lessons learned through evaluation efforts
c. Communicate lessons learned and best practices from evaluations to improve programs and policy as part of quality improvement feedback
d. Review Annual Updates and three-year program and expenditure plans for training and technical assistance opportunities
e. Provide technical assistance as needed for development of county plans
f. Facilitate development of training and technical assistance statewide resource center including on-line clearinghouse
g. Support training and technical assistance to disseminate successful Innovation programs developed by counties through the Innovation Component

Priority 7: Provide oversight of statewide projects and processes

a. Continue oversight of Statewide PEI Projects
   1. Suicide Prevention
   2. Stigma Reduction
   3. Student Mental Health Initiative
b. Continue to provide oversight of the Reducing Disparities Statewide project
   1. Consider and make recommendations regarding policy implications to incorporate effective practices for diverse communities
c. Monitor the process to amend the annual county performance contract including incorporating the MHSA Agreement into the contract
d. Ensure the Issue Resolution Process is finalized, communicated, and implemented
e. Review Annual Updates and three-year program and expenditure plans for any compliance issues and take appropriate action

Priority 8: Increase efforts to communicate statewide effectiveness and accountability of the MHSA

a. Continue to coordinate communication strategies through the public information workgroup, which includes CMHDA, CalMHSA, CCCMHA, NAMI and UACF.
b. Showcase County Profiles on the MHSOAC Website
c. Launch Prop. 63 website and conduct outreach to communicate the existence of the website and process for posting to the website
d. Develop and broadly disseminate Evaluation Deliverable Fact Sheets
e. Update MHSOAC website
f. Communicate progress in reducing mental health disparities
g. Produce short video to be used on the MHSOAC website spotlighting the work of the Commission
h. Continue to find new opportunities and events to highlight Prop. 63 positive outcomes

Priority 9: Continue efforts to develop strategies that overcome the stigma and discrimination associated with mental illness

a. Continue co-hosting Free Your Mind radio show
b. Continue outreach to college campuses in collaboration with Art With Impact
c. Produce short videos to be used at Community Forums and/or the Prop. 63 website to showcase examples of FSP, PEI, INN and WET programs