

At the November 17th, 2011 Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) meeting, the Commission approved proceeding with the development of a statewide community mental health system evaluation master plan recommended by the Evaluation Committee. The master plan would provide complete evaluation of all components as a unified effort. The Committee recommends that this task be done as a collaborative effort with partners and stakeholders. The committee also suggested that this could be a primary effort of the MHSOAC Research Scientist IV, other staff, or possibly a consultant.

The MHSOAC embarked on a search to retain a person or organization with the unique skills and knowledge to assist with the development of the Evaluation Master Plan and is pleased to announce that the Commission has retained Joan Meisel, Ph.D to lead this endeavor.

Dr. Meisel has over 40 years experience in policy analysis, research, evaluation, and consulting in the health care field with a special emphasis on mental health issues. She has worked on various aspects of the MHSA since its inception including drafting proposed performance indicators for individuals, the mental health system, and the community which were later updated and adopted by the Mental Health Planning Council and MHSOAC. Joan also co-led an evaluation of the planning and early implementation of the Community Services and Supports (CSS) component of the MHSA and assisted in the design of the evaluation plan to be included in the guidelines for counties' PEI plans.

Dr. Meisel has a Ph.D, in psychology and an M.B.A. both from Stanford University.