



MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES  
OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION

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November 1, 2010

TO: INTERESTED PARTIES

FROM: Richard Van Horn, Chair  
Eduardo Vega, Vice-Chair

SUBJECT: Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee Membership

The Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) is recruiting for membership on the Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee. The MHSOAC will make a final decision as how best to structure the committees at its November 18, 2010. This letter sets forth the current composition of the committee; however, that composition may change depending on the outcome of the November 18<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting.

The Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee is charged to ensure that the perspective and participation of individuals and families who are members of racial, ethnic, and cultural communities are systematically included in all of the Commission's deliberations, decisions and recommendations.

The MHSOAC is looking for individuals who are members of underserved and underserved racial, ethnic and cultural communities who are persons or family members with lived experience with mental illness and/or for children and youth, serious emotional disturbance. The Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee will seek grassroots representation as well as state level representation.

In addition to the above, the Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee seeks representation from community-based organizations, mental health professionals and the California Mental Health Director's Association

Consistent participation in the Committee meetings, either in person or over the phone, is critical to the success of the Committee. Committee members must be able to commit to regular participation and attendance. If a Committee member cannot attend a Committee meeting the member will need to notify the Committee Chair and the Committee staff in advance to ensure a quorum is still reached. In accordance with the MHSOAC Rules of Procedure, if a Committee

member misses more than one (1) Committee meeting without notice or three (3) Committee meetings in a calendar year with notice the Committee Chair has discretion to decide whether it is in the best interest of the Committee to have that Committee member replaced.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in joining the Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee, please complete an application and send it to the above address. Membership applications can be found at the MHSOAC website <http://www.mhsoac.ca.gov/soac-committees.aspx>. Applications will be accepted until 11/19/10. If there are any questions contact **Dee Lemonds**, Committee Staff, at (916) 445-8696 or by email [dee.lemonds@dmh.ca.gov](mailto:dee.lemonds@dmh.ca.gov)

cc: Sherri L. Gauger  
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