

INFORMATION

TAB SECTION: 4

 X ACTION REQUIRED

DATE OF MEETING: 8/22/12

PREPARED BY: Lyon, Bradley

DATE MATERIAL PREPARED: 8/14/12

AGENDA ITEM: Finalize Recommendations to be Presented to the MHSAOC for the Use of the FY 2012-13 Evaluation Resources

- ENCLOSURES:**
- Proposal A: Program/Provider Level Data Reports on FSPs to Support Quality Improvement
 - Proposal B: Feasibility Study: FSP Client and Program Characteristics Impact on Individual Outcomes
 - Proposal C: Evaluation of System Change as a Result of MHSA Values
 - Proposal D: Support Local Oversight Efforts
 - Proposal E: Initial Evaluation of Innovation Component
 - Proposal F: Placeholder—Build on Portions of RAND PEI Evaluation Framework
 - Proposal G: Strengthen State Data Systems
 - Proposal I: Summit
 - Proposal J: Evaluation of the Impact of the Community Planning Process through Participatory Action Research (PAR)
 - Proposal L: Workforce Education and Training (WET) Evaluation Planning
 - Proposal M: Collection of Baseline Priority Indicator Data

OTHER MATERIAL RELATED TO ITEM:

Issue:

The Evaluation Committee is responsible for providing recommendations to the MHSAOC at the September 2012 Commission meeting regarding evaluation priorities.

At the August 22nd meeting, the Committee will discuss and decide upon recommendations for evaluation priorities and the use of the \$875,000 in evaluation funds that are available for FY 2012-13. Below is information relevant to the enclosed proposals and the Committee's decision-making process intended to be helpful for the Committee's review and consideration for each funding proposal. The finalized recommendations will then be presented at the September 2012 Commission meeting for action.

Since there is the potential that some or all of the proposals will be contracted out through a competitive bid process, all Committee members affiliated with organizations that intend to bid on any of the proposals need to recuse themselves from discussion of the proposals and voting on the recommendations.

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Background:

At the July 23rd Evaluation Committee meeting, the Committee began the initial discussion regarding selection of evaluation priorities to recommend to the Commission for allocation of the \$875,000 in evaluation funds. The Committee considered eight options proposed by Dr. Joan Meisel, MHSOAC consultant, that she believed to be consistent with the Evaluation Master Plan, which is currently in development. Of these eight, one idea (Proposal H) that proposed to increase internal MHSOAC evaluation staffing and resources was dropped from consideration since all proposed ideas could, in theory, be carried out by internal Commission staff rather than external contractors; this decision should be made on a case by case basis and proposals should rather be focused on identifying specific projects to fund. In addition, five other evaluation options have been generated via Committee input. Of those five, one idea (Proposal K) that involved regional learning communities was dropped from consideration based on feedback received and consensus that was reached at our July 2012 meeting. The eleven remaining proposals were either authored by Committee members or generated by MHSOAC staff based on Committee discussion and input. Each proposal's content is consistent with the instructions provided in the Evaluation Priority Setting document, which was completed in 2011-12. Proposal authors estimated project timeframes (e.g., to be completed in one versus multiple years) and the range of costs based on the estimation of effort to complete the described deliverables.

Proposal Prioritization Process:

Prior to the meeting, please read each of the attached proposals and consider whether or not they would be an appropriate way to use the evaluation funding. Please keep the following considerations in mind as you review each:

- These funds are intended to further the MHSOAC's role in evaluation. If the proposed project does not contribute to an evaluation of the MHSA, then it may not be an appropriate use of these funds.
- Fundable projects should be: 1) distinct from other previous or current work being done on the MHSA, 2) clear as to their intended purpose and end goal, and 3) at a stage where they would be ready to implement (via development of an RFP or internal MHSOAC staff).
- Fundable projects should also focus on evaluation efforts that could and should be directed by the MHSOAC rather than other entities.
- As a reminder, please be aware that the Commission asked the Evaluation Committee to consider Innovation evaluation in this round of funding.

At the August 22nd meeting, Committee members will also have the opportunity to ask questions about each proposal and provide comments. After Committee members have had the chance to ask questions and provide comments regarding all proposals, each member will be asked to vote on their top three choices for use of the

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Background (continued):

\$875,000 evaluation funding. The proposals that receive the most votes will then be discussed at length. This time will be used to work toward consensus regarding which proposals to recommend moving forward with. The number of proposals that may be recommended by the Committee will be based on the amount of funding needed to adequately complete each project; it is estimated that it may be feasible to fund perhaps 2-3 projects for this coming fiscal year.

Proposed Motion:

The Committee recommends submitting to the MHSOAC the following proposals to be funded by the \$875,000 evaluation resources available for FY 2012-13.

1. *(list proposal)*
2. *(list proposal)*
3. *(list proposal)*