

___ ACTION REQUIRED:**DATE OF MEETING: 6/19/13****PREPARED BY: Lyon****DATE MATERIAL
PREPARED: 6/7/13**

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion Regarding Client and Family Member Employment in Statewide Mental Health System**ENCLOSURES:****OTHER MATERIAL RELATED TO ITEM:**

Issue:

The CFLC 2013 has a Charter activity regarding the development of strategies for promotion of client and family member employment in the mental health system. At the June 19, 2013, meeting the Committee will discuss the information that is currently available about client family member employment in the statewide mental health system.

Background:

There are various statewide activities associated with employment of client and family members in the mental health system. Below is a brief description of each that will be discussed at the June 19, 2013 meeting.

Working Well Together (WWT)

The WWT Technical Assistance Center ensures public mental health agencies are prepared to recruit, hire, train support and retain multicultural clients, family members, parents and caregivers as employees within the public mental health system. WWT is a collaborative with the following entities:

- Peers Envisioning and Engaging in Recovery Services (PEERS)
- National Alliance on Mental Illness, (NAMI) California
- United Advocates for Children and Families (UACF)
- California Institute for Mental Health (CiMH)

There are four Technical Assistance Center (TAC) Coordinators, one from each of the WWT partner agencies that work in five regions of the state to help develop approaches for the successful employment of clients and family members statewide.

Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD)

The OSHPD now oversees the WWT contract. One of the deliverables in the current contract is to research existing peer certification standards across the state and nation. WWT is responsible for the development of recommendations for establishing statewide standards for California Consumer/Family/Parent Certification. The Certification provides the following:

- Formal validation of the role of peer providers.

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Background, (continued):

- Seeks to standardize the quality of services provided by peers.
- Information on competencies to employers.
- A scope of practice that consumers and family members can benefit from.

Client and Family Member Expert Pool

PEERS and the California Association of Mental Health Run Organizations (CAMHPRO) have partnered to form the Client Stakeholder Project ("CSP"). Through a contract with the MHSOAC, a major goal of the CSP is to obtain a better understanding of current stakeholder processes so that this knowledge can be used for quality improvement purposes. The activities PEERS will be responsible for include data collection, inventorying of the data, the creation and implementation of a stakeholder process curriculum, and associated training, and technical assistance for clients. In addition, the CSP will develop a pool of client experts to serve on MHSA related committees and work groups, and participate in MHSOAC and other MHSA meetings.

This pool will consist of consumer experts across California who will serve on various ad hoc, topic-focused and time limited committees and/or provide presentations.

As expert needs are identified, the CSP will match the expert with the identified need/project. The expert pool will be comprised of consumers with personal lived experience with mental challenges and/or the mental health system who demonstrated the ability and experience in providing subject expertise in their specialty area(s).

For attendance at identified activities/events, the CSP will provide travel expenses and stipends. Time commitment will vary depending on identified need.

Mental Health Services Act Five-Year Workforce Education and Training Development Plan

The Five-Year Plan was approved by the California Mental Health Planning Council in April 2008. It covers the period April 2008 to April 2013, with subsequent plans to be developed every five years. This document articulates a vision, values and mission for implementation of Workforce, Education and Training programs and activities. The plan provides guidance to assist in long-range planning toward an integrated mental health service delivery system. Due April 2014, OSHPD is currently having regional meetings across the state to gather stakeholder input for the next five year plan to be available next year.