

AGENDA ITEMS: Workforce, Education and Training Funding Update

- ENCLOSURES:**
- Revised Workforce, Education and Training (WET) Funding document (provided by Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development)
 - Senate Budget Subcommittee # 3 Agenda Regarding WET May 2013 Spring Finance Letter

OTHER MATERIAL RELATED TO ITEMS:

Issue:

Carla Castaneda, Department of Finance and Lupe Alonzo-Diaz, Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development will provide the committee with an update regarding the WET program funding.

Background:

The Workforce, Education and Training component provides dedicated funding to remedy the shortage of qualified individuals who are trained and provide services to individuals with serious mental illness (WIC 5820). Requirements include:

1. Expand capacity of postsecondary education programs
2. Expand forgiveness and scholarship programs
3. Create new stipend program modeled after the federal Title IV-E program
4. Create new regional partnerships among the mental health system and educational entities to increase the diversity, reduce the stigma, and promote distance learning techniques
5. Implement strategies to recruit high school students for mental health occupations
6. Develop and implement curricula to train staff on WET principles
7. Promote the employment of mental health consumers and family members in the mental health system
8. Promote the meaningful inclusion of mental health consumers and family members
9. Promote the inclusion of cultural competency in the training and education programs in subdivisions (a) through (f).