

**X\_ INFORMATION**

**TAB SECTION: 4**

**\_\_\_ ACTION REQUIRED**

**DATE OF MEETING: 10/11/13**

**PREPARED BY: Wendy Desormeaux**

**DATE MATERIAL PREPARED: 9/16/13**

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**AGENDA ITEM: California Reducing Disparities Strategic Plan Update**

**ENCLOSURES: • None**

**OTHER MATERIAL RELATED TO ITEM: None**

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**Issue:**

The MHSOAC Services Committee will receive an update from the Chief of Plan Review and Committee Operations on the MHSOAC review process of the pre-release draft Strategic Plan.

**Background :**

In 2008 in response to the call for national action to reduce mental health disparities and seek solutions for historically underserved communities in California, the MHSOAC in partnership with the Department of Mental Health and in coordination with the California Mental Health Directors Association (CMHDA) and the California Mental Health Planning Council, called for a key statewide policy initiative as a means to improve access, quality of care, and increase positive outcomes for racial, ethnic and cultural communities.

The initiative, entitled the California Reducing Disparities Project (CRDP), is focused on five populations: 1) African Americans; 2) Asian/Pacific Islanders; 3) Latinos; 4) Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender, Questioning (LGBTQ); and 5) Native Americans. These groups have developed populations specific Strategic Planning Workgroups (SPW's) and have generated reports to identify new service delivery approaches defined by multicultural communities for multicultural communities using community-defined evidence to improve outcomes and reduce disparities.

MHSOAC staff will provide an update on the status of the pre- review process of the embargoed copy of the strategic plan.