



Participatory Research and Use by the MHSOAC

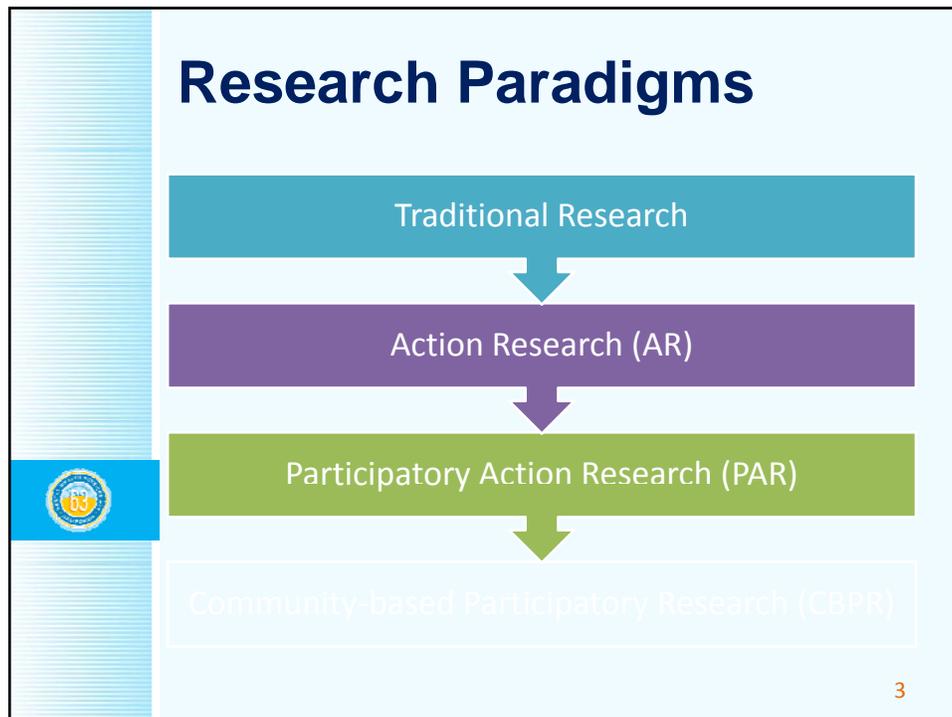
MHSOAC Evaluation Committee
April 1, 2014
Presented by Ashley Mills and Keith Erselius

WELLNESS • RECOVERY • RESILIENCE

Purpose and Agenda

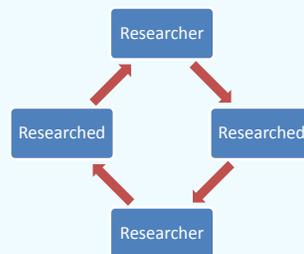
- Evaluation Committee Charter Activity 8:
Diversify the methods by which the MHSOAC receives input from people with lived experience of mental illness.
- Grounding this discussion
 - Step One: Research paradigms and participatory research methods
 - Step Two: Review current MHSOAC use of research methods, in general, specific deliverables, and examples.
 - Step Three: Participatory research methods in action – presentation by the Client Stakeholder Project

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Action Research (AR)

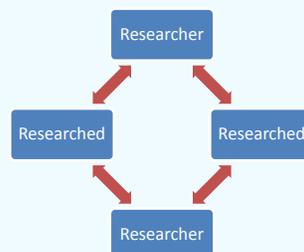
- Findings increase understanding but also affect change
- Cyclical relationship between the Researcher and the Researched



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Participatory Action Research (PAR)

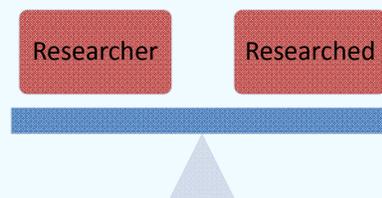
- Shift towards a participant-centered paradigm
- The researched participate in constructing the research design, data collection and interpretation of results



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Community-based Participatory Research (CBPR)

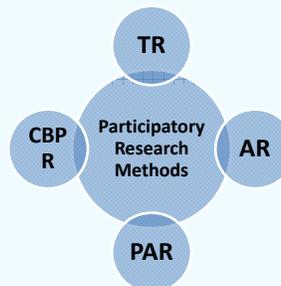
- Equitable partnership between the researcher and the researched
- Combining knowledge and action for social change



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Participatory Research Methods

- Engaging with those with lived experience at various stages in the research process, from generating research questions to disseminating findings.



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“Participatory research is defined as systematic inquiry, with the collaboration of those affected by the issue being studied, for purposes of education and taking action or effecting change.”



Green, Lawrence W.; M. Anne George; Mark Daniel; C. James Frankish; Carol P. Herbert; William R. Bowie and Michel O'Neill. 2003. "Appendix C: Guidelines for Participatory Research in Health Promotion," in Minkler, Meredith and Nina Wallerstein(eds), Community-Based Participatory Research for Health. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass Inc.

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Use of Participatory Methods

■ Overview

- General inclusion of those with lived experience
- Deliverable-specific inclusion of those with lived experience
- Examples



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General Inclusion

- All OAC evaluation contracts require that:
“...the Contractor must work with individuals with mental illness and their family members, representatives of California’s diverse communities, counties, and service providers to conduct research and evaluation that is guided and informed by those who are most closely touched by the mental health system.”

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Deliverable Specific Inclusion

- For specific deliverables (e.g., evaluation plans, policy recommendation reports):
“Contractor shall convene a group of stakeholder advisors to provide input on the development of this Deliverable in a meaningful and appropriate way.”

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Example of MHSOAC Participatory Evaluations

MHSA Statewide Participatory Evaluation

- Past

Community Program Planning Process (CPP) Evaluation

- Present



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PAST

UCLA & Clarus MHSA Statewide Participatory Evaluation

- Reliance upon the lived experience of individuals, consumers of services, parents of children who have received services, and family members
- Focus and shape all study activities and to help ensure that the evaluation methods are credible and the results are accurate, meaningful, and actionable
- Approach was clearly delineated so that interested parties understood the strengths, limitations, and their roles in the project



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PRESENT

RDA Community Program Planning (CPP)

- Inclusion of
 - diverse individuals living with mental illness,
 - their family members and/or caregivers,
 - individuals across the lifespan,
 - un-served and underserved communities
- Collaboration with the MHSOAC and Client Contractors
- Training Client Contractors to conduct data collection and guide the data collection process as needed.



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Mental Health Services
Oversight & Accountability Commission

Community Program Planning (CPP) Process Evaluation

Presented by Sally Zinman, Program Director,
Client Stakeholder Project
and Cyndi Eppler, Program Manager,
Client Stakeholder Project



WELLNESS • RECOVERY • RESILIENCE

What is “lived experience”?

- Lived experience with mental illness
 - Personal
 - Family member / Family of choice
 - Caregiver



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Evaluation Committee Charter

- Diversify the methods by which the MHSOAC receives input from people with lived experience of mental illness.
- Discussion Items:
 - How to best involve those with lived experience with the Evaluation Committee
 - How best to involve those with lived experience in MHSOAC evaluations



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