



**Financial Oversight Committee Meeting
Minutes**

March 20, 2014

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission
1325 J Street, 17th Floor, Suite 1700
Darrell Steinberg Conference Room
Sacramento, CA 95814**

Committee Members:

Staff:

Other Attendees:

Larry Poaster, Chair John Buck, Vice-Chair Stacie Hiramoto Paul Stansbury* Wayne Clark* Dave Schroeder* Jane Adcock* Rigel Flaherty	Kevin Hoffman Jose Oseguera Peter Best	Michele Curran Donna Ures Angela Flood Monica Nepomuceno Lisa Wezenski* Carla Castaneda
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*Participation by phone

Committee members absent: Rusty Selix, Joseph Robinson, Maureen Mina, Robert Oakes, Carol Langone, James Loftus, Jack Joiner and Thomas Loats.

Welcome:

Chair Poaster opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

Adoption of the August 1, 2013, October 23, 2013 and January 16, 2014 Meeting Minutes

A quorum was not possible, so the approval of the minutes was postponed and moved to the May 15, 2014 meeting.

Presentation on Use of MHSA Administrative Funds by California Department of Education

Monica Nepomuceno, Education Program Consultant, California Department of Education (CDE) provided a presentation to the Financial Oversight Committee on how the Department of Education is utilizing the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Administrative funds.

Overview:

- Total annual amount received (current year): \$179,000.
- Total of 0.7 positions are funded for an Education Programs Consultant who supports County mental health programs' work with local educational agencies, county offices of education, and special education local plan areas to provide necessary services.
- Staff in this position also participates in the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission, the Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee, and the California Mental Health Planning Council meetings.

- The Education Program Specialist:
 - Develops and delivers the Training Educators through Recognition and Identification Strategies (TETRIS) workshops throughout the state.
 - Participates in California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) Board Meetings.
 - Presented/Participated and various conferences including; Tools for Change Conference, American Indian Education Conference, California School Boards Association Conference, Informational Hearing: California State Senate Select Committee on Mental Health-Every Life Matters: Implementing Effective Suicide Prevention Strategies in California and California Mental Health
 - Supports coordination of the Student Mental Health Policy Workgroup (SMHPW): The SMHPW meets for the purpose of developing policy recommendations on student mental health for the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and the California Legislature. This workgroup meets quarterly, and is comprised of a diverse group of educators and mental health professionals.
 - Develops a California Educator's Guide to Student Mental Health Wellness. This guide is designed to help all school personnel recognize and support students with mental health issues.
 - Disseminates student mental health information and resources, including opportunities to participate in MSHA activities that reach more than 8,000 school staff, county and community mental health service providers, and other stakeholders via Listserv.
 - Provides ongoing technical assistance to the field and public regarding student mental health issues.
 - Partners with other agencies throughout the country to find best practices for California public schools and to effectively collaborate with mental health agencies throughout the state.
 - Provides ongoing technical assistance to the field and public regarding student mental health issues. Many people do not understand the connection between academic achievement and mental health.
- Having only a 0.7 FTE funded position is a barrier in data collection and program implantation and expansion.
- Department of Education plans to submit a Budget Change Proposal (BCP) to the Department of Finance (DOF) for an additional 150,000 to work with high school teachers and students to learn to identify signs of mental illness and to form a National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) on Campus Club.

Committee input including Public Comment:

- CDE should explore additional funding options in addition to submitting a BCP for additional MHSA Administrative funds.
- Consider collaborations with client groups. Members from these client groups could be invited to the SMHPW meeting and provide input.
- How do other states fund similar efforts? Answer: Through their General Education State Budgets. However, they serve fewer students than California.
- Any thoughts of CDE asking for a funding increase through general fund

appropriation? Answer: No

- Through your work with the Rand Corporation to identify the impact of the training and outreach you provide; the results of this study may help to highlight the need to invest in mental health programs in schools and to influence CDE and to support these efforts.
- You may want to contact the MHSOAC Commissioners that represent educational interests and ask them for guidance and advocacy assistance.

Discussion on Protocols for Departments Presenting on the Use of MHSA Administrative Funds

The committee discussed the need to develop a protocol to standardize the information that is presented to this committee by the entities that receive MHSA Administrative Funds.

The following discussion included committee and public comment:

- Originally, each state department that requested MHSA Administrative Funds submitted a BCP to the DOF. DOF contacted the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to review these request and asked if DMH was in support of approving the funding.
- The passage of AB 100 reduced the percentage of MHSA Administrative Funds available from 5% to 3.5%, which resulted in the elimination of funding to specific state departments and the reduction of funding to others.
- The passage of SB 82 restored the funding level to 5%.
- DHCS's MHSA Expenditure Report released in January and May of each year, provides a brief overview of MHSA Administrative Funds.
- Currently, 11 state departments receive MHSA Administrative Funds.
- This committee wants to ensure that these funds are being used appropriately and the programs are effective,
- This committee wants the departments receiving these funds to become more culturally responsive to people with, or recovering from a mental health concern.
- By this committee requesting updates from the state departments receiving these funds, it will lessen the chance that these funds are used ineffectively.
- Should Memorandums of Understandings (MOU's) be reinstated?
- This committee should develop a format to provide to each state department before they present on the use of MHSA Administrative Funds to this committee.
- Request that state departments receiving funding submit progress reports on the use of these funds.
- Establish a workgroup consisting representatives from the Mental Health Planning Council, DHCS and MHSOAC to discuss the process to establish interval reporting and updates.

The discussion of the item will be continued at the July 10, 2014 Financial Oversight Committee Meeting.

Discussion on the Protocols for the Committee Presenting to the Commission of the Use of MHSA Administrative Funds

The committee discussed the protocol for presenting the information to the Commission, received from the presentations from state departments who receive MHSA Administrative Funds. The following discussion included committee and public comment:

- The protocol should include; the history of funding for each department and explain the funding request and approval process.
- Should the MHSOAC be included in the approval process
- Currently, DOF is the gatekeeper of the MHSA Administrative Funds
- Should each department that presents to this committee present to the Commission?
- How was funding per department established?
- The discussion of the item will be continued at the July 10, 2014 Financial Oversight Committee Meeting.

Review Approved Financial Oversight Committee 2014 Charter

This was an information only document. No discussion was noted.

General Public Comment:

None

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:54 AM.