



MENTAL HEALTH FUNDING AND POLICY COMMITTEE
2009 Charter

Purpose:

To ensure that all MHSOAC funds are “expended in the most cost effective manner and services are provided in accordance with recommended best practices subject to local and state oversight to ensure accountability to taxpayers and to the public.” [MHSOAC: Sec. 3 - Purpose and Intent:(e)].

Guiding Principles

Committee policy and strategy recommendations to the MHSOAC should reflect and strive to address the following MHSOAC-identified priorities:

1. Culturally and Linguistically competent
2. Likely to promote a client/family/parent driven system
3. Likely to reduce stigma and discrimination
4. Fully informed via a robust stakeholder process
5. Best Practices and continuous improvement

Date	May 2009 (Revised)
Chair Vice-Chair	Tom Greene Larry Poaster
Staff	Janna Lowder, Carol Hood
Composition	<p>Individuals with knowledge and experience in the mental health field and stakeholders from California’s diverse populations including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • California Council of Community Mental Health Agencies (CMHDA) • California Mental Health Directors Association (CMHDA) • California Mental Health Planning Council (CMHPC) • Mental Health America (MHA) • Mental Health Association of California (MHAC) • Monterey County Health Department, Behavioral Health Division • National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) • Community based organizations (CBOs)

Objectives:

- Ensure that all MHSA-approved funds are distributed in a timely manner
- Ensure that all MHSA funds are expended in accordance with the intent of the Act, and that they contribute to the identified outcomes of the Act as stated in Sec. 3, -- Purpose and Intent is as follows:
 - (b) To reduce the long-term adverse impact on individuals, families and state and local budgets resulting from untreated serious mental illness.
 - (c) To expand the kinds of successful, innovative service programs for children, adults and seniors begun in California, including culturally and linguistically competent approaches for underserved populations.
 - (d) To provide state and local funds to adequately meet the needs of all children and adults who can be identified and enrolled in programs under this measure.
- Ensure that MHSOAC members receive continuing education about the financial health and fiscal context of the public mental health system
- Make fiscal recommendations to the MHSOAC that support the integration of MHSA principles and services throughout the public mental health system
 - Solicit and distribute information which will assist the MHSOAC, DMH, counties and stakeholders in making better informed, and more transparent, fiscal decisions
- Make recommendations on the budget for the MHSOAC

Outcomes:

1. Establish Mental Health funding evaluation and reporting System
 - Overview to commission -- January 2009
 - Financial Framework & reporting schedule – April 2009
 - Regular reporting – On going
2. Advise MHSOAC on State and Federal budget issues
 - Present letter to Governor/Legislature on MHSA funding for MHSOAC adoption – January 2009
 - Monitor, analyze and report on State and Federal budget changes affecting mental health services -- Ongoing
3. Review and make recommendations concerning:
 - Appropriate amounts of MHSA reserves – Summer 2009
 - Appropriate flexibility for counties in the use of MHSA funds – Summer 2009
 - AB 5xxx Staff Proposal – Summer 2009
 - Proposed process for engaging stakeholders – Summer 2009
 - MHSOAC draft white paper describing the vision for a transformed mental health system – Summer 2009
 - The responses of government agencies to the recommendations for reforming MHSA processes contained in the report of the Department of Finance, entitled “Final Report—California Department of Mental Health, Mental Health Services Act Performance Audit,” dated June 3, 2008 – Fall 2009