

X INFORMATION

TAB SECTION: 6

___ ACTION REQUIRED

DATE OF MEETING: 11/18/10

PREPARED BY: Lemonds

DATE MATERIAL PREPARED: 11/4/10

AGENDA ITEM: Presentation of Cultural and Linguistic Competence Training

ENCLOSURES: None

OTHER MATERIAL RELATED TO ITEM: Power Point presentation handout on the CLCC Training will be brought to the Commission meeting

ISSUE

The Client and Linguistic Competence Committee (CLCC) will present a training related to cultural and linguistic competence consistent with their current charter activity to provide annual cultural and linguistic competence training to the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) and staff.

BACKGROUND

A primary goal of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) is to expand programs that include culturally and linguistically competent approaches for unserved and underserved ethnic and cultural communities. A workgroup of the CLCC has been meeting to develop a presentation that will both inform the MHSOAC and raise awareness of cultural and linguistic competence issues that influence unserved and underserved ethnic and cultural populations including those with mental illness.

The presentation will focus on how past systemic policies in the United States have contributed to ethnic and cultural disparities that impact multiple aspects of individual and family life. The presentation will also identify and relate current data trends in California to historic policies and suggest policy implications for the Commission going forward.

Questions for Consideration:

1. *What opportunities are available to reduce disparities in California and what can we do better?*
2. *Are there strategies the Commission could focus on to improve policies in this area?*
3. *Does healthcare reform provide opportunities to reduce disparities and if so how?*