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AGENDA ITEM: **Co-Occurring Joint Action Council (COJAC) Panel Overview**

- ENCLOSURES:**
- COJAC Fact Sheet on Co-Occurring Disorders, January 2008
 - COJAC Action Plan For California, September 2005
 - AOD & Mental Health Funding Sources Chart, COJAC Workgroup, Funding Subcommittee
 - EPSDT Fact Sheet for Co-Occurring Disorders

LINKS TO REPORTS:

Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission Report on Co-Occurring Disorders, Transforming the Mental Health System Through Integration
<http://www.mhsoac.ca.gov/Meetings/docs/Meetings/2008/Nov/CODReportFinal.pdf>

OTHER MATERIAL RELATED TO ITEM: None

ISSUE

The Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) established the Services Committee to make recommendations regarding implementation of Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) programs and services. Activities of this committee include making recommendations to improve co-occurring disorders (COD) competency. This presentation will highlight the work of the Co-Occurring Joint Action Council (COJAC) in supporting collaboration between and integration of the service systems for mental health and substance use.

Panelists are Marvin Southard, Director, Los Angeles County Mental Health; Cheryl Trenwith, President, County Alcohol & Drug Program Administrators' Association of California (CADPAAC); and Mary Hale, Chief of Operations, Orange County Behavioral Health.

BACKGROUND

The Governor's Budget language of 1995/96 mandated that the Departments of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) and Mental Health (DMH) eliminate barriers to the provision of services to persons with co-occurring disorders of mental illness and substance use. This was the genesis of the two departments collaborating on dual COD.

In 1996, the two departments convened the Dual Diagnosis Task Force, comprised of members from CADPAAC and California Mental Health Directors' Association (CMHDA), jointly sponsoring four dual diagnosis demonstration projects. Both departments understood the ongoing need for continued discussion and development of a plan to enhance services for persons with COD. Beginning in 2002, they sponsored the COD Workgroup whose efforts resulted in the COD Workgroup Final Report released in June 2004.

BACKGROUND (Cont'd)

In the fall of 2004, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) invited the State of California to participate in the COD National Policy Academy meeting in early 2005 in Washington, D.C. Concurrently during the fall of 2004 the California Institute for Mental Health (CiMH) sponsored a meeting and a conference on COD. In the spring of 2005, a workgroup, tasked to implement the SAMHSA COD State Action Plan, began meeting.

Members of the SAMHSA COD National Policy Academy and the joint association representatives coalesced into the forum called COJAC. The COJAC works to broaden input and to facilitate moving the action plan forward. COJAC continues today to work to improve treatment for COD. The COJAC Workgroup brings together a range of stakeholders to direct and act upon the work of the five COJAC subcommittees (Partnerships, Funding, Screening, Licensing and Certification, and Housing).

Enclosures:

- Fact Sheet on Co-Occurring Disorders, January 2008 – provides an overview of COD and also includes the recommendations from the MHSOAC’s report on COD.
- COJAC Action Plan for California, September, 2005 – includes strategies, actions, and expected outcomes.
- AOD & Mental Health Funding Sources Chart – Co-Occurring Joint Action Council Workgroup, Funding Subcommittee – describes program, funding sources, target populations and where to obtain more information
- Fact Sheet Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) For Co-Occurring Disorders – provides information on program eligibility, funding and mental health services provided under EPSDT