

PREPARED BY: Lyon, Hood**DATE MATERIAL PREPARED:** 06/20/11

AGENDA ITEM: Initial Discussion on FY 2011-12 MHSOAC Evaluation Priorities**ENCLOSURES:**

- DRAFT Evaluation Committee Discussion Document Initial Recommendations Regarding FY 2011-12 MHSOAC Evaluation Priorities, June 21, 2011

OTHER MATERIAL RELATED TO ITEM:

Issue:

At the April 20, 2011 Evaluation Committee meeting there was a preliminary discussion of evaluation priorities and how the MHSOAC would use the \$1M for FY 2011-12 for structuring evaluation decision making. To expedite the discussion for the June 22nd meeting, the committee Chair asked members to provide recommendations of evaluation concepts as priorities to keep on track with the timeline to provide recommendations to the Commission in September, 2011. The attached document reflects input provided by committee members and other sources as recommendations to consider for structuring decision making for evaluation. Additional recommendations may be made at the meeting.

Background:

The Legislature recently approved an additional \$1M continuous funding for FY 2011-12 to be available for evaluation efforts for the MHSOAC to continue its oversight and accountability responsibility. The Department of Finance advised the MHSOAC that personnel services necessary as resources for evaluation efforts may be supported with part of the \$1M funding. The MHSOAC's Executive Director is authorizing \$125,000 to support a Research Scientist IV to be established on-going to perform the following continuous duties identified for evaluation, see below.

The committee will discuss and make initial recommendations regarding priority uses of the remaining \$875,000 for FY 2011-12 for action in the August, 2011 committee meeting. The committee will also continue the discussion of a structure for decision making that will be further developed at the August, 2011 committee meeting. These committee recommendations are intended to be brought to the September, 2011 Commission meeting for action.

Research Scientist IV Duties:

The Research Scientist IV will use his or her scientific expertise to:

- Plan and direct major professional research evaluations related to the positive public mental health outcomes of the taxpayer investment in MHSA, including reductions in homelessness, acute psychiatric hospitalization, and incarceration, along with increases in employment, education, and quality of life,

X INFORMATION

TAB SECTION: 5

___ ACTION REQUIRED

DATE OF MEETING: 6/22/11

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BACKGROUND (continued)

- Lead the MHSOAC Evaluation Committee, which meets pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 5845(d)(3),
- Make presentations to State public mental health experts and the mental health community on the scientific research conducted, act as a subject-matter expert in conducting public health scientific research that has the potential for advantageous or adverse impact on community mental health, and
- Provide interpretations of scientific research findings for use by others.
- Seek and analyze relevant scientific, technical, and public mental health information from throughout the state and integrate this information into evaluation questions and studies,
- Consult with MHSOAC Commissioners and Executive Management on evaluations and scientific recommendations as a scientific expert.