

**AGENDA ITEM: National Standards on Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS)**

**ENCLOSURES:** • PowerPoint

**OTHER MATERIAL RELATED TO ITEM:** None

**Background:**

In February 2011, the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) adopted the Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee's (CLCC) 2011 Charter. Activity number three of the Charter directs the CLCC to develop, produce and conduct an annual Cultural and Linguistic Competence Training for the MHSOAC and staff. The CLCC spent portions of several committee meetings developing the logistics of this presentation so that it would be most relevant to the MHSOAC and staff.

**Presentation:**

Jose Carniero, EdD, Director, Office of Minority Health Resource Center, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will conduct a presentation on the Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Standards at the November 17, 2011 MHSOAC meeting. The objective of the presentation is to provide the Commissioners with knowledge about the CLAS Standards and their relevance to the MHSOAC's role in the public mental health system. An additional goal is for the Commission to gain a greater awareness of the need to develop specific policy guidelines on how to use the CLAS Standards in its oversight and accountability role in the public mental health system.

The CLAS Standards presentation will:

- Provide a history of the CLAS Standards
- State and explain the ultimate goal of the CLAS Standards
- Explain the difference between Mandates, Guidelines and Recommendations
- Review the CLAS Standards
- Define Cultural and Linguistic Competence
- Enumerate at least three steps towards cultural competence
- Identify which CLAS Standards may be appropriate for use by the MHSOAC