

PREPARED BY: Lyon

DATE MATERIAL PREPARED: 10/14/11

AGENDA ITEM: Finalize Recommendations to be Presented to the MHSOAC
Relating to Evaluation Priorities and Funding Levels

ENCLOSURES:

- Establishing Priorities and Focusing Evaluations of the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission, September 14, 2011
- Proposal A-Community Planning Process
- Proposal B -County Use of Evaluation
- Proposal C- Impact of Early Intervention Programs
- Proposal D - Participatory Research
- Proposal E - PEI Evaluation Strategy
- Proposal F - Regional Supports
- Proposal G -Report on Impact on Disparities
- Proposal H -Statewide Supports for DCR

OTHER MATERIAL RELATED TO ITEM: None

Issue:

The Evaluation Committee is responsible for providing recommendations to the MHSOAC at the November 2011 Commission meeting regarding evaluation priorities.

At the October 26th, 2011 Committee meeting the Committee will discuss and finalize recommendations for proposed evaluation priorities regarding the use of the \$875,000 evaluation funds for FY 2011-12. The finalized recommendations will then be presented at the November 2011 Commission meeting for action.

Background:

In June 2011 the Evaluation Committee members received the attached document titled, "Establishing Priorities and Focusing Evaluation of the MHSOAC". The document was revised several times and finalized in August. This tool was to be used by the Committee to assist with the decision making process to prioritize recommendations for use of the evaluation funds. The enclosed document includes the input from the August meeting.

At the August Committee meeting it was determined that staff, with input from subject matter experts, would explore and prioritize the evaluation recommendations for the \$875,000 evaluation funds. The team considered all proposals submitted by Committee members and the brainstorming ideas from last year which were presented at the June and August 2011 Evaluation Committee meetings. The team convened on 9/13/11 and prioritized the top eight proposals from the ideas that had been previously submitted.

Background (continued)

From those eight, staff developed the attached one to two page write-ups that include input from the work group.

The range of costs was based on the estimation of effort to complete the described deliverables. From these eight proposals, staff recommends four proposals. Proposals E and C are combined, so four proposals are advanced to the committee for its consideration in the following three priorities.

Staff Recommendations

\$500K to DEVELOP A PEI FRAMEWORK (Proposal E) including data collection strategies. This contractor will need to coordinate development of the evaluation framework with CalMHSA’s evaluation of statewide PEI projects. This funding would also EVALUATE EARLY INTERVENTION (Proposal C) for a subset of programs and strategies and assess the use of PEI funds for early intervention programs.

\$100K for ANALYSIS AND SUMMARY OF COUNTY REDUCING DISPARITY REPORTS (Proposal G). Counties have submitted analyses of their efforts to reduce disparities in their Annual Updates and Cultural Competence Plans. The contractor would provide consistent county-level and statewide reports analyzing this information. The contractor would also make recommendations regarding future evaluations of reducing disparities.

\$275K for EXPANDED STATEWIDE SUPPORT FOR Data Collection and Reporting (DCR) (Proposal H) to support efforts to improve accuracy and use of the DCR to further the work of the MHSOAC in its statewide evaluation of the MHSA. This would build upon the current contract with California State University Sacramento regarding the DCR to strengthen the use of the DCR which will result in more accurate and reliable data. This will assist counties in developing standardized reports to effectively use information for local and statewide quality improvement of community mental health services. The Commission is currently exploring a partnership with CalMHSA on this effort.

It is staff’s recommendation to reinforce those previous decisions by the Commission (including involvement of clients/families/unserved communities throughout the life span through all phases of the evaluation) to continue for the PEI evaluation framework, early intervention and the summary of disparity reports. Staff also recommends the involvement of grassroots groups throughout the evaluation process to improve feasibility and usability of those evaluations.

INFORMATION

TAB SECTION: 4

 X ACTION REQUIRED

DATE OF MEETING: 10/26/11

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Background (continued)

Initially, funding for evaluation is necessary for supporting infrastructure to ensure that the basics for evaluations are established. However, the Commission should continue to move toward focusing on evaluation with those resources rather than infrastructure. Other sources of funds need to be identified for other essential infrastructure tasks.

Proposed Motion

The Committee adopts the recommendation of submitting to the MHSOAC the following three proposals to be funded by the \$875,000 FY 2011-12 evaluation:

1. (list proposal)
2. (list proposal)
3. (list proposal)