

Transformation Grant

The work of planning for the transformation of the Behavioral Health Care system in Connecticut continues. All seven work groups continue to meet. There are over 150 individuals representing people in recovery, advocacy groups, state agencies and providers involved in these work groups.

The **Transformation Oversight Committee** met on March 23, 2006. The focus of that meeting was to review the structure that has been put in place to get recommendations for the Comprehensive State Mental Health Plan, to review the work groups and their areas of focus and to begin to discuss how to prioritize recommendations as they come into the Oversight Committee. The group will meet again on May 9, 2006.

We are anticipating a visit from staff from **SAMHSA** who are working with us on the Transformation process. Pat Shea, the Project Director for Connecticut and Carol Bianco, the Technical Assistance Liaison for Connecticut will be in the state from May 8-10, 2006. They will be visiting programs, attending meetings of the Oversight Committee and workgroups and meeting with staff at DMHAS.

The work on the **Resource Inventory** continues. We are connecting with all the other state agencies involved in the TSIG to develop an inventory of resources, expenses and individuals served associated with behavioral health. This resource inventory will give us important information as we begin to think about the Comprehensive State Plan for Behavioral Health.

Cheryl Stockford has been hired as the Program Manager for the TSIG. Ms. Stockford, previously employed in the Prevention Unit, has experience working on multiple federally funded grants and projects related to mental health and substance abuse.