

Mental Health Transformation Update

April 2008

Connecticut's Mental Health Transformation efforts have been organized into four domains: **Consumer/Youth and Family Driven; Community Education; Data-Driven Decisions;** and **Workforce Development**. Current activities include:

Consumer/Youth and Family Driven

A proposal was released seeking applicants to coordinate the development of a consumer, youth and family based collaborative. The selected contractor will plan and manage the activities and tasks necessary to support the implementation of a C/Y/F-driven quality improvement process for mental health services evaluation.

The Child Health Development Institute (CHDI) is implementing a project in two communities to divert children and youth from involvement in the juvenile justice system through implementation of Community Based Wraparound, a proven effective approach addressing the needs of children and families.

Community Education

An inter-agency Network of Care Governing Committee held its first meeting on April 14, 2008. The committee will meet quarterly to monitor site content, usage trends, survey results and recommend enhancements.

A request for proposal (RFP) was released seeking applicants (mental health agencies, Federally Qualified Health Centers, and other community primary health care providers) to implement a pilot program for general pediatric, family medicine and geriatric health care professionals. The project will improve the ability of primary care providers to identify, diagnose, refer and treat individuals with mental illness pursuant to Public Act 06-188 Sec.31.

Planning of a statewide Social Marketing Campaign to reduce stigma and increase mental health awareness is underway. Initial meetings with Mintz and Hoke have been held to develop a plan that complements the Department of Social Services Medicaid Infrastructure Grant (MIG) initiative's Connect-ability campaign.

Representatives of the Department of Public Health, State Department of Education, MHT and DMHAS' Suicide Prevention Initiative are working together to develop a plan to collect information about mental health education in schools.

Data-Driven Decisions

The Data Interoperability Workgroup, with representatives from the MHT, Department of Social Services Bureau of Rehab Services' Medicaid Infrastructure Grant, Office of Workforce Competitiveness and Early Childhood Education Cabinet has been created to discuss ways to facilitate resource sharing and coordination in the area of data interoperability.

Workforce Development

Yale University is working with community-based providers and others to implement the following workforce development interventions:

- Parent Leadership Training
- Intensive Home-Based Services
- The Connecticut Recovery Employment Consultation Service
- Supervisory Competencies

A Governor's Executive Order has been requested to establish the Connecticut Workforce Collaborative on Behavioral Health.

Transformation Opportunities - MHT Request for Proposal and Mini Grants

MHT received over 70 applications in response to a recent request for proposals from state and local government agencies, qualified private non-profit organizations, and Consumer/Individual in Recovery, Youth and Family organizations to implement transformative change within their organizations or local community. Initiatives will be funded through 9/30/08.

To learn more about Connecticut's Mental Health Transformation Initiative visit www.ct.gov/dmhas/cwp/view.asp and click on Mental Health Transformation, or call (860) 418-6738.