

Mental Health Transformation Update

June 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

Contract negotiations are underway with the successful applicant to coordinate the development of a consumer, youth and family based collaborative. The Contractor will plan and manage the activities 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.

Final steps are being made to identify the successful (RFP) applicant to implement a pilot program to 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.

A Strategic planning meeting with Consumer, Youth and Family Advisory Council and Oversight Committee members was held at the offices of Mintz and Hoke on May 13. This was the first step in developing the Social Marketing Campaign to reduce stigma and increase mental health awareness. The intent is to develop a campaign that complements the successful Connect-ability campaign sponsored by the Department of Social Services Medicaid Infrastructure Grant (MIG) initiative.

Representatives of the Department of Public Health, State Department of Education, MHT and DMHAS' Suicide Prevention Initiative have met and plan to continue collaborating on 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 meeting to discuss ways to facilitate resource sharing and coordination in the area of data interoperability.

Workforce Development

Yale University hosted a Workforce Inaugural event on May 30 to provide recognition for MHT initiatives and welcome newly formed Council membership. Community-based providers and others are implementing the following workforce development interventions:

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

MHT Request for Proposals and Mini Grants

Seven review teams with a majority of Consumer representation reviewed 70 applications in response to a recent request for proposals from state and local government agencies, private non-profit organizations, and Consumer, Youth and Family organizations. The initiatives to implement transformative change within organizations or communities 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.