

CT MHT Excellence in Mental Health Care Workgroup (#5)
Wednesday, May 3, 2006
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Convener: Lauren Siembab

Major Topics/Discussion Points:

Discussion of proposal distributed by Dr. Vinod Shrihari regarding the need for early intervention services. Group agreed on the importance of the issue, but was unclear about allowable costs and how such efforts might be supported by this grant. The issue was referred to the Access and Quality workgroup and was framed in terms of what access, quality, and infrastructure issues need to be addressed in order to get high quality early intervention services to youth across the state in a timely and effective manner. Examples of such issues are the lack of insurance coverage for such presentations, the possible need for public and private sector partnerships, and the need for community education and network development.

Two workgroups reported back their work to date:

Meta-system group prioritized identification of people with mental illness in criminal justice system and, within that, identification of high service users and propose an intervention with this population that crosses agencies and manages care through inter-agency contract. Second issue is to decrease system reliance on nursing homes by identifying service gaps, diverting people from nursing homes, and getting people into more appropriate services and settings.

Access and quality workgroup has prioritized identifying and addressing barriers to access and quality. More details will be described in the next meeting.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 24th, 2006, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. at CVH