

Workgroup 1: Stigma

Date: March 28, 2006

Time: 2:00 – 4:00

Convener: Jim Siemianowski

Major Topics/Discussion Points:

Introductions

- Reviewed the goals of the T-Sig and working group. Funding is for infrastructure, not services, but can support services (e.g. trainings)
- A survey has been sent to the state agencies to inventory existing anti-stigma efforts.
- Members reviewed and discussed the inventory of current anti-stigma activities within the state and nationally.
- Reviewed and discussed proposed anti-stigma campaign strategies submitted by the group members. Will further develop, refine, and prioritize during the next meeting.
- Reviewed the Suicide Prevention Plan developed by the Department of Public Health. Further promotion of this plan is in the process.

Barriers/Problems Identified:

- Lack of coordination in anti-stigma campaign efforts among agencies to present a comprehensive and united anti-stigma campaign.
- No line item budget for anti-stigma or suicide prevention activities.

Ideas/Recommendations:

- Invite participation in the working group from representatives of each of the 14 state agencies identified for transformation.
- Examine funding received from SAMSHA and identify ways to coordinate activities to reduce fragmentation

Transformation Activities in Connecticut Discussed in the Meeting

- NAMI presented an overview of its anti-stigma programs
- DMHAS Crisis Intervention Training program for police officers.

- Department of Public Health's Suicide Prevention Plan

Next Meetings:

April 10, 2006, 2:00 to 4:00 at Connecticut Valley Hospital