

Connecticut Mental Health Transformation State Incentive Grant (MHT SIG) March 2006 Update

Oversight Committee

The Oversight Committee will meet on March 23, 2006.

MHT Workgroups

Workgroup 1: Mental health is essential to overall health;

Workgroup 2: Mental health care will be person and family-driven;

Workgroup 3: Disparities in mental health care;

Workgroup 4: Early mental health screening, assessment, and referral to services;

Workgroup 5: Excellent mental health care;

Workgroup 6: Technology to increase access to care and information; and

Workgroup 7: Workforce Transformation.

- Over 120 individuals representing state agencies, state and private providers, consumers and families are participating.

Needs Assessment/Workforce

- Yale Evaluation/Needs Assessment Team has collected relevant existing data, reports, community needs assessments, etc. that document mental health gaps, needs, barriers, etc., from state and community agencies. They will complete an analysis of the existing data and identify specific areas to focus new needs assessment activities. This information will be available to the work groups to assist them in formulating recommendations for inclusion into the State Comprehensive Mental Health Plan. Expected date of completion of report is April 3, 2006.
- Needs assessment surveys, targeting consumers and general populations, will be administered in March/April.
- Workforce development activities are underway. Focus groups are being held to obtain additional information about needs, gaps, etc. A one day retreat focusing on workforce issues specific to those working with children is being planned in collaboration with DCF.

Inventory of Resources

National Research Institute (NRI) is assisting with collecting information from other state agencies related to expenditures, # of persons served and types of services provided to persons with mental health needs.

Comprehensive State Mental Health Plan

- SAMSHA has released final guidelines for the Comprehensive State Plan.

Status of Grant-funded Positions

- Project Director - Barbara Bugella has been hired to fill this position.
- Project Manager- Cheryl Stockford to begin on 3/27/06.
- Healthcare Analyst – Debra Lynch has been hired.
- Secretary-Position required reposting.