



FRAMEWORK FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA)  
THREE -YEAR PROGRAM AND EXPENDITURE PLAN  
October 1, 2008

*Context*

Section 5847 of the MHSA requires that “Each county mental health program shall prepare and submit a three year plan which shall be updated at least annually and approved by the department after review and comment by the Oversight and Accountability Commission”.

Further, Section 5846. (a) requires that “The (Oversight and Accountability) Commission shall annually review and approve each county mental health program for expenditures pursuant to Parts 3.2 for Innovative Programs and Part3.6 for Prevention and Early Intervention.

Section 5848 (c) requires that DMH “shall establish requirements for the content of the plans”... and that “the plans shall include reports on the achievement of performance outcomes for services”.

Section 5848 (a) and (b) require that “Each plan and update shall be developed with local stakeholders.

Section 5878.1 & 5813.5 of the MHSA are built upon and incorporate previously existing statute describing children, adult and senior Systems of Care.

In accordance with the MHSA, it is the State’s intention that every three years, counties will conduct an inclusive and robust planning process within a quality improvement framework to develop their Three Year Program and Expenditure Plan (herein referred to as the Integrated Plan). In this planning process, each county will share with community stakeholders information about how their public mental health system is functioning and moving toward transformation, including system self assessments and performance indicators, and stakeholders will have the opportunity to provide input for system growth and changes based upon this information. In the intervening years, counties shall submit annual updates to their Integrated Plan that will request MHSA funding for the upcoming FY year and reflect any significant changes to their current Integrated Plan. The timeline for submitting the first Integrated Plan will be as follows:

- July 2009 - DMH provides FY10/11 Integrated Plan Guidelines
- July 2009 – March 2010 – Counties conduct planning and required review processes for FY10/11 – FY12/13 Integrated Plan.
- March 2010 – Counties submit plans to DMH
- July 2010 - DMH provides FY 10/11 funding for approved Integrated Plans

The time periods in relation to the first Integrated Plan will thus be:

- Initial planning year – FY 09/10
- Reporting Year for Prior Activities – FY08/09

- Funding Request Year – FY10/11

***Vision***

The MHSA is built upon previously existing statutes for child, adult and senior Systems of Care. The Integrated Plan will reflect community stakeholders’ vision and strategic plan for their public mental health system consistent with statute and how MHSA funding will interact with the rest of the system to move toward this vision over the upcoming three years. It is expected that each three-year planning process will revisit the logic models used in the CSS and PEI initial planning processes and increase in their ability to assess county progress toward a transformed system incorporating the core elements developed through the initial CSS process and affirmed in the PEI planning process<sup>1</sup>:

- Wellness Focus
- Cultural Competence
- Community Collaboration
- Client and Family Driven
- Integrated Service Experience

**INTEGRATED PLAN AND PLANNING PROCESS – FIRST CYCLE**

***General:***

While community engagement is an on-going expectation, the basic idea of the Integrated Plan is that the major planning effort would occur in the year prior to the submission of the three-year plan with a less elaborate planning process for years two and three. If additional funds were to become available in years two and three it is anticipated that the county would have a priority list already developed as part of its three-year plan and unless circumstances had changed would follow that set of priorities.

***Framework for Integrated Plan:***

The framework for the Integrated Plan will consist of five sections:

1. Community planning process
2. Community vision and three-year goals
3. Report on prior year’s MHSA activities
4. Funding request summary for the upcoming year
5. Report on performance indicators

The purpose of each section is presented below. Between 10/1/08 and 7/1/09 the State will build on prior efforts and continue the stakeholder process to develop specific content for each section. In addition, decisions will need to be made about how other required activities such as the development of cultural competence plans will complement and interact with the Integrated Plan.

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<sup>1</sup> Definitions of the core elements can be found in the California Code of Regulations, Chapter 14, Section 3200.

### **Community Planning Process**

**Purpose:**

- To document that counties have conducted an inclusive, robust, thoughtful and strategic planning process, using a logic model format, that meets statutory and regulatory requirements<sup>2</sup>
- To document that community input is reflected in the plan and if not, why not
- To analyze the effectiveness of the community planning process with respect to key stakeholders, including
  - Consumers and family members
  - Cultural brokers<sup>3</sup>
  - Community organizations and agency partners

### **Community Vision and Three-Year Goals**

**Purpose:**

- To develop with local stakeholders the community's vision for their public mental health system and goals for the three year plan which move the system forward in achieving this vision
- To place MHSA activities and funding requests within the community's broader vision
- To describe how implemented MHSA components relate to each other and to the entire public mental health system within the context of the community vision and the core elements for a transformed system

### **Report on Prior Years' MHSA Activities**

**Purpose:**

- To share and discuss with local stakeholders in a quality improvement framework information that includes but is not limited to:
  - The prior three year's progress in implementation of MHSA components
  - A qualitative self assessment of progress in moving toward the community's vision for their public mental health system, including progress in the areas of the five core concepts
  - To provide the state with an update of county activities

### **MHSA Funding Request Summary**

**Purpose:**

- To develop with local stakeholders and to inform the state about the anticipated numbers to be served and costs for the services to be provided in the upcoming year

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<sup>2</sup> References to the planning process in the MHSA are found in Section 5848 (a) and (b) and also in Chapter 14, Sections 3200.070 and Section 3300 of the California Code of Regulations

<sup>3</sup> Cultural brokers may be state and county officials working within county mental health departments or administrators and providers working outside county mental health departments who have prior knowledge and trusting relationships with particular communities. In addition, cultural brokers may be community activists, advocates working at the state or county level, as well as county or state level non-governmental organizations (with established trust and credibility in particular communities. *Definition excerpted from "Building Partnerships: Key Considerations When Engaging Underserved Communities Under the MHSA", UC Davis, Center for Reducing Health Disparities, 2008.*

- To assure the state that the county is meeting fiscal statutory and regulatory requirements
- To provide sufficient detail about proposed new programs so that local stakeholders and the state can understand them and see how they relate to identified community needs/issues, the community's vision, and the core concepts.

### **Report on Performance Indicators**

Purpose:

- To inform the state about whether or not the county is meeting statutory and regulatory requirements
- To track and assess with local stakeholders progress in meeting state and locally defined performance outcomes and to inform the state about this process

### ***Annual Updates***

In accordance with the Act and regulations, in the intervening years between Integrated Plans, counties will be required to develop updates with community stakeholders and conduct the required review processes. The Annual Updates will focus upon Sections three through five of the Integrated Plan, report on the prior's year's activities and request funding for the upcoming year.