

INFORMATION

TAB SECTION: 7

 X ACTION REQUIRED

DATE OF MEETING: 6/26/08

PREPARED BY: Whitcomb

DATE MATERIAL PREPARED: 6/14/08

AGENDA ITEM: Approve MHSA Funding for PEI; Discussion on Transferring Statewide Training and TA Funding to Counties

ENCLOSURES:

- MHSA Prevention and Early Intervention Planning Estimates for FY 2007-08 and FY 2008-09
- Mental Health Services Act Prevention and Early Intervention: County and State Level Policy Direction, adopted by the MHSOAC Jan. 26, 2007; amended by MHSOAC September 11, 2007

OTHER MATERIAL RELATED TO ITEM:

ISSUE:

In response to pressure from the budget crisis and in order to move the MHSA funding out to the counties as quickly as possible, the DMH and CMHDA are requesting that the MHSOAC approve the following shifts in funding for Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI):

1. Expand PEI Community Program Planning Funding to Counties (\$25 million)

Currently, \$25 million of the total statewide funds available for local PEI plans for Fiscal Years 2007-08 and 2008-09 is available for counties to use for community program planning. The enclosed chart, "MHSA Prevention and Early Intervention Planning Estimates," provides the overall PEI Planning Estimates. The first column indicates that \$25 million is available to the counties for community program planning. This expansion would double this amount so that counties would have a total of \$50 million in community program planning, which would come from the same planning estimates for FY 2007-08 and 2008-09.

The rationale for this change is to provide additional flexibility to support achieving the aims set forth in the current PEI guidelines with needed system investments such as infrastructure costs, additional community planning, and other potential costs of a non-recurring nature. In addition, the additional CPP funding will allow counties to use these funds to support state level activities for the three statewide PEI programs beginning in FY 2008-09: Suicide Prevention, the Student Mental Health Initiative, and Stigma and Discrimination Reduction.

2. Expand PEI Plan Funding from Accrued Resources (\$40 million)

The total funding for PEI as of FY 2009-10 is approximately \$250 million. The \$40 million additional funds would come from this amount and would be available to counties to support or enhance proposed PEI programs as well as supporting state level PEI activities for Suicide Prevention, the Student Mental Health Initiative, and Stigma and Discrimination Reduction.

ISSUE: (Cont'd)

For Discussion and Possible Vote: Make Available Statewide Training and Technical Assistance to Counties (\$6 million/year x 4 years)

One of the PEI statewide projects is Training, Technical Assistance, and Capacity Building. An excerpt of the enclosed MHSOAC PEI policy direction document described the goal for statewide training, technical assistance, and capacity building for partners:

The goal of statewide training and technical assistance is to improve the capacity of partners outside of the mental health system, i.e. education, primary health care, law enforcement officers, primary care providers, to assist in prevention and early intervention efforts. Statewide training and technical assistance will serve as an incentive for counties to improve their strategies in addressing the five priority impact areas of PEI (reducing disparities, addressing trauma, and addressing the emotional/behavioral/mental health needs of children and youth, reduction of stigma and discrimination, and suicide prevention), not a requirement.

The original intent of this statewide strategy was to build capacity of partners outside of the mental health system to assist in prevention and early intervention efforts. Commissioners may want to consider emphasizing this principle within the following possible scenarios, below.

The amount of this funding totals \$24 million (\$6 million a year for four years). In discussions with DMH and CMHDA, three possible scenarios are emerging for spending this funding:

- 1) Make these funds available to counties for local administration. CMHDA believes that these funds should be made available for local administration. Unlike planning for community services and supports, counties are learning that planning for and implementing PEI programs requires much more expertise and coordination with agencies and stakeholders that may become new partners. CMHDA indicates that it has become more apparent that there is an urgent need for these resources and the most expeditious way is through local administration.
- 2) Make these funds available to counties for administration through a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) to provide training, technical assistance and possibly a regional clearinghouse. CMHDA indicates that a JPA may be available by the fall of 2008; however, if it is not available at that time, CMHDA states that counties could still act jointly to use this funding to contract with an entity to develop the necessary products and services prior to the JPA.
- 3) Keep these funds at the State level for state administration of training and technical assistance. This could include a statewide training and technical assistance clearinghouse. Under this scenario, the earliest possible use for these funds would begin in July 2009. This is because one problem with keeping the funds at the state level is that the DMH has no authority in FY 2008-09 to spend these funds. If these funds remain at the State level, the DMH would have to request them in the next budget cycle for FY 2009-10 budget. In addition, the counties would have to go

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through the "assignment process," in which they must request of their Boards and Supervisors that the funds be reassigned to the State for this activity.

Proposed Motion:

- ***Approve expanding PEI community program planning funding by \$25 million***
- ***Approve expanding PEI Plan Funding by \$40 million from accrued resources***
- ***Approve making available \$24 million in statewide training and technical assistance to the counties under Scenario 1), 2), or 3), above***