

\_\_\_ INFORMATION

TAB SECTION: 4

X ACTION REQUIRED

DATE OF MEETING: 1/30/09

PREPARED BY: Whitcomb

DATE MATERIAL PREPARED: 1/18/09

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**AGENDA ITEM:** Adopt PEI State-Administered Project on Reducing Disparities

**ENCLOSURES:**

- Reducing Disparities Project Design (modified 12/16/08)
- DMH PowerPoint Presentation: Reducing Disparities Project

**OTHER MATERIAL RELATED TO ITEM:**

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### **Background**

In January 2007, the MHSOAC provided the following policy direction for the Statewide PEI Ethnically and Culturally Specific Programs and Interventions:

The Statewide set-aside for up to \$15,000,000 per year, up until the implementation of the MHSA Integrated Plan, to support special projects for reducing ethnic disparities based on the results of the Ethnic Stakeholder process. This is in addition to, rather than instead of, expecting Counties to work toward reducing disparities in all County PEI Plans.

In June 2007, based on results of the UCD Center for Reducing Health Disparities Focus Group findings, MHSOAC voted to initially focus on five racial, ethnic and cultural groups to be included in a Statewide Project for Reducing Disparities:

- African Americans
- Asian/Pacific Islanders
- Latinos
- Native Americans
- LGBTQ

### **DMH Activities**

Rachel Guerrero, Chief, DMH Office of Multicultural Services, will present this PEI Statewide project to the MHSOAC.

To initiate work on this project, DMH will start with the development of a strategic plan that will contain recommendations on the overall design for the statewide project. This initial effort will be supported with MHSA state-administrative funds (\$1.5M).

DMH staff presented this proposed project to the Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee on September 24, 2008. In addition, DMH conducted a statewide stakeholder conference call on September 30, 2008 to solicit input and feedback on this project. DMH received many suggestions and comments during the public comment period and revised the project design accordingly. The major deliverables remain the same:

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**DMH Activities (Continued)**

- Develop a Reducing Disparities Strategic Plan to guide the implementation of the PEI statewide project.
- Establish a Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) multi-ethnic/cultural collaborative to increase representation of stakeholders from racial, ethnic, and cultural communities and to serve as a statewide advisory body to the Department of Mental Health.

DMH anticipates that three requests for proposal (RFPs) will be issued (see attached Reducing Disparities Project Design, modified 12/16/08):

- RFP will be awarded to fund a MHSA Multicultural Collaborative
- RFP will be awarded for up to five contracts to develop racial/ethnic/cultural recommendations for the statewide PEI project
- RFP will be awarded to a single contractor to coordinate, facilitate, compile and draft the input and recommendations from the MHSA Multicultural Collaborative and the five targeted groups into one comprehensive strategic plan.

***Proposed Motion:***

***Adopt DMH administration and direction of the Statewide PEI project for Reducing Disparities***