

The Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) will implement the provisions of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) that relate to assisting persons with severe psychiatric disabilities to obtain employment and necessary independent living skills. DOR currently partners closely with the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to support and oversee local DOR and county mental health cooperative programs in 25 California counties. The mental health cooperative programs are contractual relationships between DOR and county mental health agencies geared toward the provision of necessary services to stabilize and prepare individuals with severe mental illnesses for employment. The Mental Health Planning Council has recommended that mental health cooperative programs be established in every California county as an effective use of leveraged funds. The planning and implementation activities have been and will continue to be directed toward this overall goal. DOR also funds and partners with California's system of 29 Independent Living Centers (ILC) who provides independent living services to individuals with disabilities, including those with severe mental illness, in need of assistance.

DOR activities reported to DMH for the period 1/1/09 – 6/30/09 are as follows:

a. Brief summary of the major activities performed during FY 08/09

DOR staff provided information and technical assistance to numerous counties and DOR districts to aid in the development of new or expanded cooperative contracts and new collaborative relationships.

Through an interagency agreement with DMH, 23 days of training in 13 different counties were provided as of 12/31/08. An additional 140 days were requested for the remainder of the fiscal year. These trainings were designed to support local county efforts to implement the MHSA and reinforce the recovery model consistent with MHSA philosophy and intent. In addition, they encourage and foster the development of local relationships between County MH and DOR to serve mutual clients and blend staff and resources to maximize funding.

DOR staff have participated in monthly meetings to coordinate statewide activities in support of local partnerships

DOR staff have been providing training, technical assistance, and monitoring of contracts developed using MHSA funding in prior fiscal years.

DOR staff have participated in state level groups in support of establishing and maintaining relationships between local County MH programs and DOR.

The results of these efforts are outlined in the next section and/or in the attached annotated work plan.

b. Identify 2 or 3 activities or accomplishments that are considered highlights and help further the intent of the MHSA (e.g., achieving system change)

1. In July, as part of the budget act of 2008, DOR shifted budget authority to cooperative programs to effect the development of new cooperative programs and the expansion of existing cooperative programs. As a result, ***funding was approved*** for the following programs:

- **New MH Cooperative programs:**
 - i. **Butte County MH:** including the development of two new case service contracts. The contracts have been completed and the program has begun providing services.
 - ii. **Lake County MH:** The contract is currently under development and we plan to implement the new program in early FY 2009/10
 - iii. **Imperial County MH:** The contract was completed and we plan to begin services July 2009.
- **Expansion of existing MH Cooperative programs:**
 - i. **Sonoma County MH,** including the expansion of a case service contract with Goodwill industries
 - ii. **Los Angeles County MH,** including the development of a new case service contract with Mental Health Association in the Antelope Valley area and the expansion of a case service contract with San Fernando Valley Inc.
 - iii. **Fresno County MH** to include new services for Transition-aged youth
 - iv. **Alameda County Mental Health,** to include the development of a new case service contract to serve monolingual Asian-speaking consumers
 - v. **Solano County Mental Health,** to include an expansion to the Caminar case service contract.
 - vi. **San Francisco County Mental Health** to include an expansion of the two existing case service contracts and the development of a third case service contract to serve individuals with mental illness exiting the justice system.

2. Other Counties or DOR districts have expressed an interest in the development of new cooperative programs and have begun the discussion and development stages. These programs are currently on a waiting list for funding:

- **Nevada County Mental Health**
- **Napa County Mental Health**
- **Calaveras County Mental Health**
- **Stanislaus County Mental Health**

3. Other cooperative programs have expressed an interest in expanding their existing services, and are currently on a waiting list for funding:

- **El Dorado County Mental Health**
- **Los Angeles County Mental Health** to include the development of a new case service contract in the South Bay Area
- **Santa Barbara County Mental Health** to include the expansion of the case service contract with PathPoint

c. Identify activities being coordinated with the local mental health system

All of the above activities are being coordinated by the MHSA-funded AGPA staff with the Counties and local DOR staff. In addition, these staff are in ongoing discussion with other programs that may want to submit a proposal, but are in more preliminary stages of development.