

The Department of Social Services (DSS) administers aid, services, and protection to children and adults in need of assistance. All DSS programs promote the well-being of children, strengthening families, and helping adults and parents achieve their potential for economic self-sufficiency. The MHSA allows DSS to work with mental health partners at the State and local levels to more effectively assure the appropriate mental health services reach the vulnerable children and their families that are served by both departments.

DSS received MHSA funding for the purpose of providing administrative, program and data evaluation resources to support the implementation of the MHSA. DSS will expand existing contracts for Wraparound training and technical assistance (T&TA) services for counties. DSS requires that Wraparound training be provided to any county planning to implement a Wraparound Services Program.

DSS activities reported to DMH for the period 7/1/08 – 12/31/08 are as follows:

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

- Forty counties have an approved California Wraparound Program. At this time, ten counties are actively planning to establish Wraparound Programs. Technical assistance is being provided to the remaining non-wraparound counties. Staff conducted site visits to Butte, Calaveras, Fresno, Lake, Orange, Sacramento, San Diego, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Shasta, Sierra, and Yolo Counties with very favorable outcomes.
- June 12-14, 2008 the Fifth Wraparound Institute took place in Anaheim. Eleven hundred people attended more than 50 workshops on models, processes and practices. Participants were able to attend six workshops during the two and a half day Institute. The Institute provided a venue for mental health, social services, probation and interested parties not only to learn about practical strategies for improving wraparound, but to build relationships and identify resources.
- October 2008 the revised Wraparound curriculum was presented at Training for Trainers (T4T) classes held by EMQ Family Partnership Institute, Inc. Modules were added to address mental health, court and probation audiences. EMQ has provided approximately 66 days of training during this fiscal year. Another 29 days are currently scheduled for the upcoming months. (See attached summary of participant's feedback of the T4T citing includes strengths and concerns.)
- Supporting Adoption through Wraparound Services offered by UC Davis Resource Center for Family Focused Practice (UCD- RCFFP). Training sites: Fresno. (January 14, 2009); Redding (January 21, 2009); Concord (January 28, 2009), and Anaheim (February 4, 2009).

- Wraparound Fiscal Training: How to Get the Most Bang for your Wrap Buck! offered by UCD-RCFFP. Training sites: Fresno (February 18, 2009), Redding (February 26, 2009), Concord (March 5, 2009), and Anaheim (March 26, 2009).
- Wraparound Parent Partner Outcomes Work Group is launching a Wraparound Parent Partner Fidelity Tool Pilot Project. Plans are underway to do the validation process on the fidelity tool. Fifteen counties and their providers have agreed to participate in the pilot project. Orientation Meetings will be conducted with the 15 pilot sites during February 2009. In February and March 2009, pilot testing will begin and includes facilitators, parents/caregivers, and parent partners. A final version of the Parent Partner Fidelity Tool will be produced by June 2009.
- June 2008 hired a person with a doctorate in education to identify evidence-tested practices for screening foster youth for mental health and developmental issues.
- Staff participated as a member of the Statewide Screening Collaborative comprised of several State Agencies and other stakeholders. The Department's participation will ensure an appropriate focus on children in foster care or at risk of foster care placement. The collaborative objectives include the formulation of a common screening language and a logic model for the selection and application of standardized mental health and developmental screening tools.
- Will continue to provide a bi-annual data match/extract between Child Welfare Services/ Case Management System and Department of Mental Health system.
- Will respond to program data requests related to mental health and/or wraparound services received by children in the Foster Care System.

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

- Disseminated throughout the CDSS Child and Family Services Division a summary of approved and pending Prevention and Early Intervention plans submitted by the counties to the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission. The summary highlighted activities focusing on children.
- Released an All County Information Notice (ACIN) 1-91-08, 'Questions and Answers on California Wraparound Services (SB 163) November 25, 2008. In this document, an explanation of the Mental Health Services Act is included. Released an All County Letter (ACL) 08-66, 'Assignment of a Wraparound Special Project Code in the Child Welfare Services/Case Management Systems (CWS/CMS)] to help identify children receiving wraparound.

- December 2008 attended several training venues (Zero to Three National Training Institute and First Five Pre-Institute; California's Working Families Summit). These venues provided opportunities to build partnerships and outreach to families, primary care health care providers, and others in positions working together to recognize the early signs of developmental and mental health needs in young children.
- Established state and regional collaborative with the public health nurses employed in the Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care. The CDSS provides instruction and consultation regarding documentation in children's case records of the results of mental and developmental screens, assessments, and treatment services.
- In an effort to assure affordable access to medically necessary care provided by county mental health programs for children with severe mental illness, the CDSS is participating in important negotiations for state discounts from the publishers of standardized, validated developmental screening tools such as ASQ, ASQ-SE, PEDS, and PEDS-DM.

CDSS will continue to promote awareness and the intent of the MHSA activities and ensure that social service staff and counties are aware of the many collaborative opportunities.