

**Mental Health Service Act Funds  
California Department of Social Services  
Progress Report for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 08/09  
Reporting Period: 1/1/2009 – 6/30/2009**

The California Department of Social Services' (CDSS) role in furtherance of the intent of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) is linked to the requirement that counties provide children Wraparound Services, pursuant to California Welfare & Institutions Code, Section 18250, also called California SB 163 Wraparound. Within CDSS, the Child Protection and Family Support Branch continue to have oversight of the CDSS California Wraparound Programs. In addition staff promotes awareness about the MHSA activities that impact our target populations. Funding is utilized to provide essential leadership, oversight, and expertise to State/County social services and mental health agencies, addressing systems, program, and practice issues.

Five positions supported by MHSA funding are located in the following branches of our Division: (1) the Estimates and Research Branch, (2) the Child and Youth Permanency Branch, and (3) the Child Protection and Family Support Branch. Support and technical assistance is focused on Wraparound expansion and related services for children and their families; to develop a mental health screening protocol for foster children; and to strengthen meaningful connections between child welfare and mental health staff at the State and county levels.

**PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- In March 2009, California counties had a combined total of 3,631 approved budgeted Wraparound slots. Forty-two counties now have approved California Wraparound Programs. Nine additional counties are presently active in the planning stages of establishing Wraparound Programs. Staff conducted site visits to Alameda, Humboldt, Inyo, Kern, Lassen, Plumas, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Tehama, and Tulare counties for the purpose of assessing needs for technical assistance and/or training. Technical assistance continues for non-wraparound counties.
  
- CDSS and UC Davis Resource Center for Family Focused Practice (UCD-RCFFP) initiated the planning process for the Sixth Wraparound Institute, to be held June 7-9, 2010 in Anaheim. The Institute theme will be "Together With Families in Times of Change" with goals aimed at five distinct areas: System Partners (CWS, MH, Juvenile Justice, Education, and community partners); Evidence-based Practices (proven outcomes, role specific); Intervention-focused Workshops (Advanced facilitation, specialized interventions); Parent Partners (role specific); Program Evaluation (Wraparound fidelity, outcomes, client satisfaction and effective tools).

- Wraparound Training for Trainers (T4T) sessions were held by the EMQ/Families First, Family Partnership Institute in April and May 2009 at Southern and Northern California locations. Forty-one staff from wraparound counties completed the T4T training. EMQ provides training in Wraparound processes through collaboration with CDSS Wraparound consultants. In SFY 08/09, EMQ provided approximately 89 days of training for 1,568 county staff.
- A Request for Proposal (RFP) is presently in process to establish a new contract with a Technical Assistance (TA) vendor and is expected to be posted by late August 2009. The vendor will have a statewide comprehensive role to address wraparound fidelity and advance the systemic integration of wraparound.
- In March and June 2008, HUBs were initiated by CDSS for Northern California (3/20/09) and Central California (6/9/09) to enhance the collaboration of counties with active Wraparound Programs. HUBs are venues for Wraparound counties to share information with each other and to influence decisions regarding Wraparound at the State level. Approximately 100 Wraparound stakeholders attended within a specific region comprised of community members, county personnel (Social Services, Mental Health and Probation), Wraparound providers, and Parent Partners.
- Data reports related to mental health services received by children in the Foster Care system will continue to be prepared as needed; work will begin to renew the data sharing MOU between CDSS and the Department of Mental Health (DMH).
- With the support of the UC - RCFFP, staff coordinated and participated in five webinars topics on evidence-tested practices, key legislation, identifying funding for reimbursement for developmental and mental health screening tools, and highlighting the State of Massachusetts's implementation of mental health screening protocols for young children in foster care.
- In partnership with the Department of Public Health, Maternal Child and Adolescent Health Branch, county child welfare executive staff was briefed on the structure, goals and accomplishments of the Statewide Screening Collaborative. The briefing strongly emphasized the benefits of a developmental screening process for young children as part of an early intervention strategy.
- Staff provided consultation to public health nurses and social workers regarding documentation/methodology in children's case records of the results of mental and developmental screens, assessments, and treatment services.