

Legislative Update

Steering Leadership Team Meeting

20 December 2017

PASSED

AB 1315 (Mullin): Early Psychosis Intervention and Early Mental Health Detection Programs)

AB 1315, shifts the paradigm for mental health treatment in California from one centered on late-stage crisis care to one in which the emphasis is on early detection, prevention and intervention, before a brain illness becomes disabling. The bill creates a public-private partnership to generate new funding for programs that provide early diagnosis and intervention services for young people experiencing the early stages of serious thought and mood disorders.

AB 1340 (Maienschein): Continuing Medical Education: Mental and Physical Health Care Integration

AB 1340 will help ensure primary care providers in California are trained to recognize the symptoms of common psychiatric conditions, part of a broader effort to promote early intervention and prevention for people living with brain illness. Requires that the Medical Board of California consider including in its continuing medical education requirements a course on integrating mental and physical health care in primary care settings.

AB 470 (Arambula): Performance Outcome

AB 470, which was signed into law in October 2017, requires the California Department of Health Care Services to develop a performance outcome “dashboard” for specialty mental health services provided to eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

AB-727 (Nazarian) Mental Health Services Act: Housing Assistance

The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), an initiative statute enacted by the voters as Proposition 63 at the November 2, 2004, statewide general election, imposes a 1% tax on that portion of a taxpayer’s taxable annual income that

exceeds \$1,000,000 and requires that the revenue from that tax be deposited in the Mental Health Services Fund. Existing law specifies the manner in which counties are to use the funds distributed from the Mental Health Services Fund, including using the majority of the funds for services provided by county mental health programs. Existing law specifies a target population for these programs, including seriously emotionally disturbed children or adolescents and adults or older adults who have a serious mental disorder.

This bill would clarify that counties may spend MHSA moneys on housing assistance, as defined, for people in the target population.

PENDING

AB 917 (Arambula): Student Health: Student Suicide Prevention Policies
AB 917 would require California Community Colleges, California State Universities, and strongly urge the Universities of California, in addition to all private colleges and universities, to adopt and implement policies on the prevention of student suicides. This is a two-year bill that will move forward in 2018.

AB 1135 (Wood): California Marijuana Tax Fund
AB 1135 would offer guidance as the Department of Health Care Services moves to establish protocols for use of Proposition 64 prevention and early intervention funds for mental health services, including substance use disorder services, for youth and their families. This is a two-year bill that will move forward in 2018.

AB 1136 (Eggman): Health Facilities: Residential Mental or Substance Use Disorder Treatment
AB 1136 directs the Department of Public Health to draft a proposal for creation of an online psychiatric inpatient bed registry to collect and relay information about available beds. This is a two-year bill that will move forward in 2018.

SB 142 – (Beall): Criminal Offenders: Mental Health
SB 142 would establish the State Community Mental Health Performance Incentives Fund and require judges to consider a defendant's mental health history when determining sentencing. This is a two-year bill that will move forward in 2018.

SB 10 (Hertzberg): California Bail Reform Act

The California Bail Reform Act would reform the bail system in California by revising the pretrial release procedure and bail limits in each county. This is a two-year bill that will move forward in 2018.

2018 Regulatory Priorities:

- Continued advocacy about a range of Continuum of Care Reform issues
- Continued advocacy about a range of Crisis Care Continuum issues

Coming . . . ???

- Sponsor legislation that requires statewide standardized training and certification of mental health peer support specialists; support legislation or proposals to include peer support specialists in the State Medicaid Waiver with a distinct billing code; support legislation that provides funding for peer support specialists to expand the breadth of services offered in the Local Mental Health Plan.
- Support proposals to fully fund outpatient treatment services for all individuals who are either involuntarily committed or seek treatment voluntarily and to promote patient engagement in mental health treatment. Support proposals to provide higher quality care through the integration of mental health, substance use and physical health care.
- Support legislation to fully fund mental health services for children including prevention and early intervention, multidisciplinary approaches and training, evidence based best practices for foster youth and juvenile offenders including Transitional Aged Youth and school based services; support legislation that creates a new licensing category for crisis residential treatment facilities for children and promote the development of additional facilities for the effective treatment of children.

- Support proposals to increase funding for specialized mental health and substance use disorder training including Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for first responders including law enforcement , fire personnel, probation officers, emergency medical personnel and health care practitioners; support legislation to authorize law enforcement and emergency medical personnel to transport an individual with mental health problems to an urgent care center rather than an emergency department or jail non-violent offenses.
- Support proposals to provide permanent and adequate funding for the Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) through the 2011 Public Safety Realignment allocation formula; support legislation that creates a statewide standardized method to collect outcome measures for EPSDT.
- Sponsor legislation that requires statewide standardized training and certification of mental health peer support specialists; support legislation or proposals to include peer support specialists in the State Medicaid Waiver with a distinct billing code; support legislation that provides funding for peer support specialists to expand the breadth of services offered in the Local Mental Health Plan.
- Support legislation that modifies statewide zoning laws to allow the siting of mental health residential and outpatient treatment facilities in each jurisdiction.
- Support legislation to broaden the definition of “grave disability” and promotes increasing funding for treatment including through public guardian and conservatorship services.
- Support proposals to increase funding for the early detection and treatment of mental illness in children, youth and adults through the use of both public and private/foundation funds.
- Support a statewide strategy to address the chronic shortage of mental health professionals and providers.

- Support legislation that would lift the current sanction on California's Medi-Cal program that prohibits payments for mental health services and primary care services furnished to the same individual on the same day.
- Support legislation that requires the State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to file a grant application for federal funding for the development of a responsive, evidence based community based mental health crisis response plan that serves children, adults and older adults.
- Establish optional continuing medical education (CME) training on mental health issues in a primary care setting for medical professionals that are required to take CME's as part of their license renewal process.
- Support legislation that requires a robust statewide evaluation of the outcomes of the Mental Health Services Act and requires the results are filed with the state legislature and easily accessible by the public.
- Support legislation that clarifies the responsibilities of the different agencies that play a role in Continuum of Care Reform and that provides adequate funding for the agencies providing these services.
- Support proposals that increase the length of time an urgent care center may hold a person in crisis and that provide a method for payment for the increased length of the hold.
- Support legislation that allows a multi-disciplinary team within a county that serves individuals that are criminal justice involved to share data and information across and within counties toward providing the best treatment and outcomes.

