



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH  
PROGRAM SUPPORT BUREAU**

**MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA)  
WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING (WET)  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**December 9, 2009  
550 South Vermont Avenue  
9th Floor Conference Room  
11:00am – 1:00pm**

**AGENDA**

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Review Agenda
- III. Approve Minutes from September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Meeting
- IV. Discussion of upcoming Advisory Committee Role
- V. WET Budget Overview
- VI. Updates:
  - Request for Services (RFS)
  - OSHPD Loan Assumption
  - Post Docs
- VII. Next Meeting



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**PROGRAM SUPPORT BUREAU**  
**MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA)**  
**WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING (WET) ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**December 9th, 2009**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Present:**

Angelita Diaz-Akahori  
 Anna Perne  
 Carlos Sosa  
 Carmen Diaz  
 Cora Fullmore  
 Dennis Murata  
 Dena Stein (Bloomgarden)  
 Dominique Eugene  
 Eduardo Vega

Hector Garcia  
 James Cunningham  
 Jeff Gorsuch  
 Juan Mata  
 Karen Gunn  
 Karl Burgoyne  
 Krista Scholton  
 Leticia Flores  
 Mariko Kahn

Maurie Edwards  
 Meena Datta  
 Paul Stansbury  
 Richard Van Horn  
 Rowena Gillo-Gonzalez  
 Stella March  
 Teddy McKenna

TASK / ISSUE	DISCUSSION	FOLLOW UP / STATUS	CONTACT
<b>I. Welcome and Introductions</b>	Committee members and guests were welcomed and asked to introduce themselves.		<b>Karen Gunn</b>
<b>II. &amp; III. Review Meeting Materials and September 30<sup>th</sup> Minutes</b>	The following documents were distributed: Agenda, Draft Minutes from September 30, 2009, and Status Log of Action Plans for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 (As of December 9, 2009).	Minutes approved with the following changes: Addition of Carlos Sosa's name as Present for the September 30, 2009 meeting; and Page 2, first bullet "Suggested trainings are..." changed to "Dealing with aggressive behavior."	<b>Karen Gunn</b>
<b>IV. Discussion on Upcoming Advisory Committee Role</b>	<p>Since the plan has been approved, the committee members' roles and responsibilities will be modified and include providing feedback with regard to implementation of action plan. Their input will also be taken when modifications are required. All members were appointed by Dr. Southard. Those wishing to continue are welcomed to remain and those unable to continue their commitment will be released from their responsibility.</p> <p>The Department will proceed with implementation of the action plans; unspent funds are to be rolled over to the next year.</p>	<p>Paul Stansbury asked if the committee was to receive a workforce status updates within the year or two? Dennis replied that at this time the RFS process takes priority. For now, we will use current WET Plan survey workforce data. A request for an outcome study on stipend students was suggested by Mariko Kahn. Dennis welcomed the idea and added that a survey could be completed by agencies that have employed stipend students to determine whether the student's training had prepared them adequately for direct services work.</p> <p>Richard Van Horn reminded the group that all plans, including WET, will be required to report outcomes to SDMH.</p>	<b>Dennis Murata</b>
<b>V. WET Budget Overview</b>	Dennis provided the following budget update:		<b>Dennis Murata</b>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CEO projected and estimates \$38-40 million shortfall for Fiscal Year 2010-2011.</li> <li>• Projection was based on the month of October 2009 only.</li> <li>• Vehicle license fees might have helped; however, realignment dollars were not sufficient.</li> <li>• Planning is needed to adjust to the budgetary constraints while maintaining mental health services. Elimination of services would be a last resort action.</li> <li>• WET Funds will be allocated and redistributed for the duration of WET.</li> <li>• Need to shift some WET funds to create a pipeline for future workforce.</li> <li>• Difficult decisions are going to have to be made and consequently the WET Action Plans need to be adjusted taking into consideration the economic environment.</li> <li>• WET Funds are to be used for Workforce development only; plans such as PEI have their own training funds.</li> </ul>	<p>Richard Van Horn informed the group that State legislators are working on “clean up” language to allow MSHA reserve funds to be utilized to remedy similar situations. During FY 12-13 counties are to roll out their Integrated Plan, so there will be no distinction between the various funding sources.</p> <p>Carlos Sosa asked if cutback in services were possible with the fiscal situation. Dennis stated this was the last resort, and essential services will continue.</p> <p>Richard Van Horn stated that even though MSHA funds included dollar growth since its inception, it still was not enough to account for the population served, growth and inflation. If the deal struck in the Senate, health reform may go to a committee before the year is over. These reforms may help offset the negative impact.</p>	
<p><b>VI. Updates</b></p>	<p>Angelita Diaz-Akahori provided the following updates: Request for Services (RFSs) Status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff Immersion – Drafting RFS and will provide MSHA immersion to current public mental health workforce.</li> <li>• Licensure Workshops – Approved by Contracts Development and Administration Division, DMH’s Financial Services, and County Chief Executive Office. Pending approval from County Counsel. Expect to release final RFS January 2010, with Bidder’s conference scheduled thereafter.</li> <li>• Recovery Oriented Supervision - Approved by Contracts</li> </ul>	<p>Mariko Kahn expressed the need to revisit each action plan to make adjustments to each action plan as the fiscal situation warrants it. Priorities need to be redone. Richard said since WET funds don’t revert back till the end of FY 16-17, WET has some flexibility to use the WET funds. WET funds are “sequestered”; no one can touch the funds.</p> <p>This action plan will prepare unlicensed staff (MSWs, MFTs, and Psychologists) to take their licensure examination.</p> <p>This action plan assists supervisors implement</p>	<p><b>Angelita Diaz-Akahori</b></p> <p><b>Angelita Diaz-Akahori</b></p>

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	<p>Development and Administration Division, DMH's Financial Services, and County Chief Executive Office. Pending approval from County Counsel. Expect to release final RFS January 2010, with Bidder's conference scheduled thereafter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpreter Training Program – Pending Departmental review prior to submission to Internal Services Department (ISD); this action plan will be sole sourced out.</li> <li>• Training for Community Partners - Identifying training needs with community partners.</li> <li>• Intensive Mental Health recovery Specialist Training Program – Drafting RFS</li> <li>• Expanded Employment/Training for Peer Advocates – Drafting RFS</li> <li>• Expanded Employment/Training for Parent Advocates – Drafting RFS</li> <li>• Expanded Employment/Training for Family Advocates –</li> </ul>	<p>principles of MHSA.</p> <p>This action plan trains staff that interpret, staff who utilize interpreters and provides consultation follow up. The training will incorporate important issues and concerns relevant to interpreting in mental health settings including recovery oriented tenets.</p> <p>Possible reduction in slots for basic training while expanding advanced and specialty training for the current workforce.</p> <p>Empowerment and Advocacy Division working on draft and looking at providing training opportunities to enhance the current peer advocates.</p> <p>This action plan will enhance trainings for parent advocates and parent partners who want to enter the public mental health system workforce as staff or volunteers. RFS includes 4 components: a) Basic – for current parent advocates/parent partners and potential future parent advocates/parent partners, b) Supervisors – for supervisors of parent advocates, c) Advance/Specialty – for current parent advocates who are looking to develop specialties in the system as well as include community partners, and d) Train-The-Trainer – to prepare parent advocates and parent partners to train others given that WET funds are only allocated until FY 2016-2017.</p> <p>The Empowerment and Advocacy Division is drafting</p>	<p><b>Angelita Diaz-Akahori</b></p>

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	<p>Drafting RFS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental Health Career Advisors – Internally reviewing RFS</li> <li>• Faculty University Immersion – Drafting RFS</li> <li>• Fiscal Intermediary for Tuition Reimbursement and Loan Forgiveness – Drafting RFS</li> <li>• Stipend Program for Psychologists, MSWs, MFTs, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners and Psychiatric Technicians – Contract to be renewed</li> </ul> <p>- Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) Loan Assumption</p>	<p>this action plan which is inclusively focusing on the training needs to family members working in the system, as well as those volunteering.</p> <p>The Department is still reviewing the implementation of this action plan.</p> <p>Faculty University Immersion training provides a three-day training for students and university faculty on MHSA values and tenets.</p> <p>Looking for a fiscal entity to administer and oversee the tuition reimbursement and loan forgiveness programs. Additional assistance is needed to define the details about the programs. With regard to the loan forgiveness program Krista Scholton has been working on other financial incentive programs that can match WET funds allowing more participants to be awarded.</p> <p>Contract will be renewed, but possibly at lower levels. FY 08-09, graduates from May-June 2008, out of 72 MFTs awarded; only 8 or 9 are still seeking employment. Of the 52 MSWs awarded, only 7 are still seeking employment. Very successful program even though economic situation is bleak. Positions being filled are at high need areas.</p> <p>Krista Scholton reported that other financial incentive programs are available, such as the OSHPD Loan Assumption Programs. To be eligible, the program must be situated in a Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) designated area. Work will begin to get more areas HPSA designated. Those programs in HPSA designated areas are also eligible for a 10% “bonus” for MediCare claims that are paid by the Feds for Psychiatrist.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Angelita Diaz-Akahori</b></p>

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	<p>- Post Docs</p> <p>- Questions/Concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How are cultural sensitivities integrated into these plans?</li> <li>• How many family member advocates are in the department?</li> <li>• What type of advocacy are we talking about for Action Plans 9, 10 &amp; 11?</li> <li>• Mariko Kahn brought up that her responsibility as a committee member was also to provide budgetary oversight. How can approval be given to these action plans, if the numbers are not known? She believes that the allocations are too high given the economic situation.</li> </ul>	<p>The Department has made a decision to fund about 6 psychology post docs at Harbor-UCLA in lieu of stipends. The post docs will be trained in evidence based models and are also expected to provide the trainings to others in the public mental health system.</p> <p>Angelita Diaz-Akahori answered that all plans have cultural competencies rolled into these action plans.</p> <p>Eduardo Vega answered “One very good one.”</p> <p>The Parent Advocates does include legislative advocacy, as well as advocacy for services. All others are advocacy for services.</p> <p>The Department cannot discuss budget information since it relates to providing advance notice to potential bidders. Committee Members will not be allowed to determine the allocations for the RFSs. Allocations will be published when RFSs are released.</p>	
<b>VI. Next Meeting</b>	Will meet quarterly, beginning March 2010. Date and time TBD.		<b>Angelita Diaz-Akahori</b>

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**MHSA WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING (WET) ADMINISTRATION**

**STATUS LOG OF ACTION PLANS TO BE  
IMPLEMENTED IN FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011  
AS OF DECEMBER 9, 2009**

<b>ACTION PLAN NO.</b>	<b>RFS TITLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
3a	Staff Immersion	Drafting RFS
3b	Licensure Workshop	County Counsel reviewing RFS - Approved by Budget/CDAD/CEO
5	Recovery Oriented Supervision	County Counsel reviewing RFS - Approved by Budget/CDAD/CEO
6	Interpreter Training Program	Pending Departmental review prior to submission to Internal Services Department (ISD)
7	Training for Community Partners	Identifying training needs with community partners
8	Intensive Mental Health Recovery Specialist Training Program	Drafting RFS
9a	Expanded Employment / Training for Peer Advocates	Drafting RFS
10	Expanded Employment / Training for Parent Advocates	Drafting RFS
11	Expanded Employment / Training for Family Advocates	Drafting RFS
12	Mental Health Career Advisors	Internally reviewing RFS
15	Faculty Immersion	Drafting RFS
19 & 20	Fiscal Intermediary for Tuition Reimbursement & Loan Forgiveness	Drafting RFS
21	Stipend Program for Psychologists, MSWs, MFTs, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners and Psychiatric Technicians	Contract will be renewed.