

Comments and Recommendations from CLCC TAY panelist:

1. Increase continuous and meaningful involvement of culturally, linguistically diverse TAY in MHSOAC Committees.
2. Support SB 614. We need more peer specialist, and effective ways to prepare peer specialist for employment (training, skill building and certification process).
3. Support the continuation of WET funds with a focus on communities of color with lived experience and have a specific option for higher education and a career ladder beyond Peer Specialist. Note: There needs to more Black and African American men hired in the field.
4. Evaluate whether services are effective and culturally responsive. Share the outcomes with the public and how to access these services on MHSOAC website.
5. Evaluate and report the impact of MHSA, in particular to ensuring LGBTQ youth have safety in homes
6. For youth under 18, tracking and reporting access to MH services that are in the communities and neighborhoods where they and their family/caregiver/parent(s) live.
7. Support more school based services as it pertains to peer support and clinical support.
8. Commissioners get presentation on current bullying legislation. Would be great to have Commission support on this.
9. Ensure that the perspectives and participation of diverse community members are reflected when hiring and/or selecting youth advocates; we need more youth advocates of color, and when providing services (peer to peer support). Continuation of WET funds can support this.
10. Provide Technical Assistance to Counties with unrealistic prerequisites for accessing therapy services.
11. TAY want more community based organizations (CBO's) and in community friendly spaces.
12. Provide Technical Assistance to Counties so linguistic services are accessible in all programs. There are language barriers for individuals with English as a second language and providers need support with how to programmatically prepare for addressing cultural and linguistic relevant services.
13. On the MHSOAC website, highlight programs that are doing an excellent job, especially ones that are addressing religious barriers to seeking treatment so other services providers can learn and prepare for addressing cultural and religious barriers.
14. On website, highlight programs that are providing best practices within Peer specialist support, Substance use treatment, Suicide and violence prevention, Access to culturally and linguistically responsive services and Trauma-informed practices; especially as it pertains to youth and families of color, systems-impacted youth (foster youth or dually involved); and LGBTQ youth.
15. Continue Cultural and Linguistic Competence presentations from CLCC to MHSOAC.