



State of California

**MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES  
OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION**

Minutes of Teleconference  
April 24, 2014

MHSOAC Office  
1325 J Street, Suite 1700  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Tel: 866-817-6550; Code: 3190377

**Members Participating**

Richard Van Horn, Chairperson  
John Boyd, PsyD  
Sheriff Bill Brown  
John Buck  
Dave Gordon  
LeeAnne Mallel  
Christopher Miller-Cole, PsyD  
Larry Poaster, PhD  
Tina Wooton

**Members Absent**

David Pating, MD, Vice-chairperson  
Khatera Aslami-Tamplén  
Victor Carrion, MD  
Senator Lou Correa  
Paul Keith, MD  
Assemblymember Bonnie Lowenthal  
Ralph Nelson, Jr, MD

**Staff Present**

Andrea Jackson, Executive Director  
Filomena Yeroshek, Chief Counsel  
Norma Pate, Administrative Chief  
Kevin Hoffman, Deputy Executive Director  
Jose Oseguera, Committee Operations Chief  
Deborah Lee, Consulting Psychologist  
Kristal Carter, Staff Services Analyst

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Chairman Richard Van Horn called the meeting of the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC or Commission) to order at 9:34 a.m. and welcomed everyone. Administrative Chief, Norma Pate, called the roll and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

**2. ORANGE COUNTY INNOVATION PLAN APPROVAL (ACTION)**

Jose Oseguera, MHSOAC Committee Operations Chief, gave a brief presentation on the Orange County Innovation (INN) plan. Orange County is requesting \$2,354,414.00 to fund the following five programs:

“Proactive On-site Engagement in the Collaborative Courts”; “Religious Leaders Behavioral Health Training”; “Access to Mobile/Cellular/Internet Devices in Improving Quality of Life”; “Veteran Services for Military Families”; and “Developing Skill Sets for Independent Living.”

The first program, Proactive On-site Engagement in the Collaborative Courts, is a four-year project that integrates mental health education with mental health system navigation services onsite at

collaborative courts for probation clients with serious and persistent mental illness and their families. Peer specialists will teach mental health courses at local mental health clinics. Orange County will assess if participation in a peer-led mental health education program combined with supportive services will increase the quality of services outcomes.

The second INN program, Religious Leaders Behavioral Health Training, is a three-year program that will increase access to services by introducing formal behavioral health training for 30 faith-based organizations using a train-the-trainers approach, increasing the number of lay persons trained in basic mental health practice skill sets. The county will assess if training and certifying religious leaders and congregants as behavioral health trainers will result in increased numbers of persons who are skilled and knowledgeable in basic mental health practice skill sets, understanding of mental health, and increased access to mental health service by religious individuals.

The third INN program, Access to Mobile/Cellular/Internet Devices in Improving Quality of Life, is a three-year project designed to increase access to mental health services and enhance the quality of life of low-income adults living with severe and persistent mental illness through access to mobile devices, accompanied by Peer Specialist supportive services. Each participant will be provided with a cell phone with internet access. The county will assess if connecting mental health consumers with affordable digital devices and cellular/internet services in the context of peer support will increase access to needed mental health and supportive services.

The fourth INN program, Veteran Services for Military Families, will target family members of veterans currently enrolled in Orange County veterans' behavioral health programs. The county will determine if the program reduces risk, improves recovery of at-risk veterans, and if it improves the understanding and communication among military family members.

The fifth program, Developing Skill Sets for Independent Living, will provide an opportunity for participants who are at-risk of homelessness to learn independent living skills through a mental health lens prior to moving into publically subsidized housing or other independent living situations. The county will assess if participation in the program improves understanding of their mental illness and recovery, independent living skill sets, quality of life, and retention of stable housing.

### **Commissioner Discussion**

Commissioner Wooton asked for an example of the classes that the Peers will be teaching in the Proactive On-site Engagement in the Collaborative Courts program. Gerry Aquirre, Service Chief MHSI Innovations Coordinator, Orange County, answered that they are considering providing various classes that will result in greater access to services, health management which helps with medication management, and core basic fields such as managing finances, and housing. He added that the classes will be participant driven.

Commissioner Wooton asked how the quality of services will be evaluated. Mr. Aquirre answered that they will use surveys, self-reports, referrals and linkage logs.

Commissioner Miller-Cole asked which cultural and linguistic groups will be targeted in the Religious Leaders Behavioral Health Training program. Mr. Aquirre stated they would reach out to as many groups as possible.

Commissioner Buck asked if targeted Peers have been identified. Mr. Aquirre answered they have not yet identified targeted Peers.

### **Public Comment**

Michael Beebe, Director of Public Policy and Research, United Advocates for Children and Families (UACF) asked, with regard to the Access to Mobile/Cellular/Internet Devices in Improving Quality of Life, and the Proactive On-site Engagement in the Collaborative Courts programs, if Transition Age Youth (TAY) could be included. Mr. Aquirre answered affirmatively. He added that whoever requires the services will be served in these programs.

Hector Ramirez asked if there was community involvement in the planning process. Mr. Aquirre answered that the initial ideas were submitted by members from the community, steering committees, and advisory boards.

Dr. Deborah Lee, MHSOAC Consulting Psychologist, added that all of the projects have things about them that are different from what is currently being done now. That is what makes them INN plans.

Mr. Ramirez asked if persons with disabilities such as the deaf and hard of hearing will have access to these programs. Mr. Aquirre answered that it was not a population that they had identified for the programs. Dr. Lee added that the purpose of INN is to try things out. If the program is found to work, then it will be applied to other populations.

Stacie Hiramoto stated that she could not find the draft INN plan on the Orange County website or the MHSOAC website. She suggested that the plans be posted in an easily accessible place.

**Action:** Commissioner Buck made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Boyd that:

*The Commission approves Orange County's five Innovative programs titled: Proactive On-site Engagement in the Collaborative Courts; Religious Leaders Behavioral Health Training; Access to Mobile/Cellular/ Internet Devices in Improving Quality of Life; Veteran Services for Military Families; and Developing Skill Sets for Independent Living.*

- Roll call vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.

### **3. SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY INNOVATION PLAN APPROVAL (ACTION)**

Jose Oseguera, MHSOAC Committee Operations Chief, gave a brief presentation on the San Francisco County INN plan. They are requesting \$500,000.00 for a two-year INN program titled, "MHSA First Steps to Success."

He stated that the aim of this program is to improve the first impressions that mental health consumers have upon entering a mental health clinic, thereby increasing access to services. The County Behavioral Staff and consumers will collaborate to measure consumer outcomes, morale among staff and providers, and whether the program results in increased access to services and reduced stigma.

#### **Commissioner Discussion**

Commissioner Miller-Cole asked how staff morale will be measured. Charles Mayer, Peer to Peer Vocational Program Manager, San Francisco County, answered that they will use surveys before and after implementation to assess program impact on staff morale.

#### **Public Comment**

Stacie Hiramoto congratulated San Francisco on the program and made a suggestion to consider expanding the program into other clinics in underserved communities.

**Action:** Commissioner Wooton made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mallel that:

*The Commission approves San Francisco County's Innovative programs titled: MHSA First Steps to Success.*

- Roll call vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously

### **4. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:06 a.m.