

**The Two Recommendations to the MHSOAC  
by the CRDP, REMHDCO, and Others  
Regarding PEI Priorities**

As Provided for by SB 1004 (Wiener)

Chapter 843 Statutes of 2018

**We strongly urge the Commission, pursuant to Welfare & Institutions Code Section 5840.7 (a) (6), to include the following in your list of priorities for adoption:**

- ***A priority that adds transition age youth who are not in college.*** Although college-bound youth are specifically identified by the *priority on college mental health programs* (Section 5480.7 (a) (3)), we recommend adding strategies for transition age youth not enrolled in college. This is vital to avoid discrimination against youth from communities of color and others who are remain underrepresented on college campuses. Not every youth attends college. Those that do not may follow a different work path, or may be unable to avail themselves of a program to help them attend college.
  
- ***Community defined evidence practices.*** Although the Commission is expected to prioritize “Culturally competent and linguistically appropriate prevention and intervention,” (Section 5480.7 (a) (4), growing evidence supports the importance and efficacy of using “community defined evidence practices (CDEPs).” The inclusion of CDEP language provides local jurisdictions with a concrete example of strategies that constitute ***culturally competent and linguistically appropriate prevention and intervention.*** Moreover, inclusion of CDEP language will further state policy to reduce disparities for racial, ethnic, LGBTQ+, and other underserved communities.

In December of 2020, your own Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee (CLCC) voted to support our recommendations as did the Client and Family Leadership Committee in November of 2022. The recent third draft report of the PEI Subcommittee, “Well and Thriving”, mentions this, yet does not include these two priorities in the report’s final recommendations.