

**REPORT TO THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
STATE OF HAWAII**

2011

**PURSUANT TO SECTION 334-10(E), HAWAII REVISED STATUTES
REQUIRING THE STATE COUNCIL ON MENTAL HEALTH TO
SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR
AND THE LEGISLATURE ON IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE STATE PLAN**

**Prepared by:
STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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HAWAII STATE COUNCIL ON MENTAL HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE

Legislative Session 2011

State and Federal Mandate

This annual report is in response to HRS 334-10 (e): “The Council shall prepare and submit an annual report to the governor and the legislature on implementation of the statewide comprehensive integrated service plan. The report presented to the legislature shall be submitted at least twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session.”

SCMH REPORT

The State Council on Mental Health (SCMH) is reorganizing after quorum challenges during the first six months of the year. The Council had difficulty conducting business because quorum was not attained at several meetings. New members have been appointed and the Council is able to conduct business without dealing with quorum issues as often.

New members of the council include two parents who are family members of adult consumers, and a youth representative from the island of Hawaii. One state representative has retired and negotiations have begun to appoint another staff person from the agency. Work is also being done to fill other SCMH vacancies.

The National Association of Mental Health Planning and Advisory Councils (NAMPAAC) conducted a two day training retreat in September, 2010 with the SCMH. The training clarified the role of the council and provided an explanation of the significance of the National Outcomes Measures. Members received instruction in how to ask questions regarding the data reported. Outcomes of the meeting include: an analysis of the Hawaii certified peer specialist program, a committee working on the council mission and vision, adjustment of SCMH meeting time beginning in January, 2011 and a follow up training scheduled for March 2011.

The SCMH Second Vice Chairperson attended the National Block Grant Conference. The conference emphasized a ‘consumers helping consumers’ approach which is applicable to the Peer Specialist positions at the Adult Mental Health clinics in Hawaii. Another topic discussed was the issue of veterans and their need for mental health services. States should prepare for the future and how the family members of veterans will need services at the state clinics. Data collection to examine services in both adult mental health and child and adolescent mental health was another important topic.

The Chair and the planner from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division attended the National Association of Mental Health Planning and Advisory Councils regional action planning workshop on preparing for health care reform. The issue of mental health being an active player at the discussion table and the most effective approaches to having an affect on the process were stressed.

Although it was not a topic of discussion at the SCMH, the loss of funding of the respite program and publicly funded dental services impacted our populations.

Important Council Discussion Topics During the Year Included:

- The transition of about 1800 consumers to the quest plans from AMHD.
- The announcement of the non-renewal of contracts for the Service Area Administrators was made in the SCMH meeting. The Council discussed the impact of the loss of the Service Area Administrators and the impact on services in each county.
- Reporting on the Mental Health Transformation State Incentive Grant activities along with Block Grant funding to support regional consumer conferences on Oahu, Maui County, Kauai and the Big Island

Presentations to the Council Included:

- Presentation on the Pilot Project on the Central Receiving Division Nursing Project, which was funded by Block Grant funds. The project was developed to divert avoidable admissions to the Hawaii State Hospital, which primarily were misdemeanor and petty misdemeanor cases; stabilize consumers when they ended up in jail and assist consumers in preparing them for their court appearances.
- 2009 Youth Services Survey for Families, which is required through the Data Infrastructure Grant. The results were collected from parents' or other caregivers' experiences with CAMHD services.
- Paper on the Adult Mental Health Division's program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing explaining the number of consumers served and the services that are in place for that consumer population.
- Received monthly mail out packets including minutes from SCMH meetings, four Service Area Board meetings, and the Hawaii Advisory Commission on Drugs, Alcohol and Controlled Substances (HACDACS), and other educational material.

Motions Passed by the SCMH:

- Approved a letter to be sent to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and its Board of Directors to reconsider the rule, which permanently bars anyone who has been evicted from public housing from future eligibility, as it relates to consumers who are in mental health recovery.
- Approved the Annual Calendar to help the Council look at what needs to be accomplished through the year, subject to revision when needed.
- Approve the letter to United Self Help responding to allegations about its program and accountant's services.

- Approved addressing the letter to Department of Human Services Med-Quest Division Administrator and a copy to the Quest Health Plans stating that the process for medication prescription should be streamlined and that pre-authorization should be re-visited.
- Approved the updates of the SCMH By-Laws, but deferred a Council member's specific revisions due to this member's absences.

In 2011, the SCMH anticipates developing a strategic plan including more active involvement in reviewing programs and making recommendations to both the Adult Mental Health and the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Divisions. Any questions regarding this report may be directed to Carol Young at cyoung@dhs.hawaii.gov.