

**Mental Health Services Act
Workforce Education and Training**

**Post-Secondary Education/Training Programs
Teleconference on Engaging Faculty**

Special Topic Workgroup

September 11, 2006

1. Present via telephone

- a. Wendy Desormeaux, Department of Mental Health
- b. Warren Hayes, Department of Mental Health
- c. Gigi Nordquist, Division of Continuing and International Education, CSU East Bay
- d. Beth Phoenix, University of California, San Francisco
- e. Dina Redman, San Francisco State University, Social Work
- f. Toni Tullys, Greater Bay Area Mental Health regional Workforce Collaborative
- g. Lesley Zwillinger, San Francisco State University, Rehabilitation Counseling

2. Discussion

The group discussed how to engage faculty from post-secondary educational institutions in order to partner with county mental health programs and their contract agency staff in the major areas of teaching, internship supervision, conducting research, and providing service provision in community public mental health settings. This activity is happening, but only anecdotally, and primarily through the efforts of selected individuals who do not receive significant financial backing for their efforts.

Providing an ongoing regional partnership structure, as exemplified by the Greater Bay Area Regional Collaborative, will greatly facilitate partnership opportunities. However, judicious use of MHSA funds can operationalize and support relationships that will greatly benefit educational institutions in increasing their ability to prepare students according to the principles and practices intended by the Act, as well as provide valuable and immediate workforce help to county mental health programs.

Contracts, Memoranda of Understanding and Interagency Agreements between post-secondary education entities and county mental health programs and their contract agencies can provide contractual structure and funding to allow staff on both sides to redirect to each other's settings. Some examples would be teaching faculty receiving release time to provide service delivery and clinical supervision at county mental health and contract agency sites, public mental staff and consumers and family members receiving release time and/or funding to assist with the teaching of courses at

educational institutions, faculty staff partnering with public mental health programs to conduct research to develop evidence for emerging best practices, and licensed public mental health staff, via funding to backfill their time, providing dedicated time to create and staff internship experiences for students.

3. Next Meeting

The Post-Secondary Education Workgroup will next meet on Thursday, October 5th, from 10:00 A.M. until 3:00 P.M. at the California Endowment in Sacramento.