
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: FY 2001 STATE PLAN FOR COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
DATE 8/9/00
CC: BOYD

The Department of Mental Health is in the process of finalizing its FY 2001 State Plan. The State Plan is a major component of the state's application for federal Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) block grant funds. The draft Plan is available for public review and the Mental Health Planning Council will provide final comments at its meeting this Friday, August 11. The Plan will be presented for final approval to the State Board of Mental Health at its August 17 meeting. The plan consists of two components: the State Plan for Children's Mental Health with Serious Emotional Disturbance and the State Plan for Adults with Serious Mental Illness. A summary of each component's major initiatives is presented below.

Children's Services

HB 250 (2000) reauthorized the Children's Advisory Council and provides for two days of mandated hearings on how to develop and finance comprehensive services in the community. The Division of Children's Services will begin implementing a five-year federal project awarded in 1999 to pilot a comprehensive system of care in Hinds County area, with Catholic Charities serving as the local provider implementing the project. The Department of Mental Health will also continue to fund selected Making A Plan (MAP) teams. These teams target for review those children with the highest or most severe needs, but who do not have available resources (uninsured, non-Medicaid) and provide non-traditional services or resources for those children who do have private or public insurance.

Other major areas addressed in the Children's Services Plan include continuation of facilitation of school-based services, provision of training across agencies, continuation of funding for three comprehensive crisis programs and respite/family support programs funded in FY 2000, work on issues affecting transition-age youth, and continuity between community services and residential and input programs. The Department of Mental Health plans to request funding increases for community mental health services in the same areas as last year, since no increases were received. The exception is that increases in Medicaid matching funds for community mental health services are projected at a

higher level than requested last year, given the shortfall in matching funds this year and the anticipated shortfall next year.

Adult Services

Major initiatives in the Adult Services Plan include continuation and expansion of the peer review process, which is separate from the program certification process. Peer review assesses providers' strengths and weaknesses and provides technical assistance. The Division of Community Services will continue to work with the Division of Children and Youth Services on the Transitional Services Task Force, which is conducting a needs assessment and plans to identify model programs. To help insure that each of the 15 regional community mental health centers are in compliance with the department's proposed standards pertaining to disaster plans and provisions of the Mental Health Reform Act, the department will begin providing approximately seven comprehensive regional training sessions on Critical Incident Stress Management.

With an increase of \$400,005 in CMHS block grant funds, the Division of Community Services is allocating an equal amount of \$26,667 to each of the 15 regional community mental health centers for providing intensive case management services for adults with serious mental illness. This increase has been earmarked for support staff and expenses for providing intensive case management services to individuals with serious mental illness being considered for inpatient treatment. The department projects that an additional 2025 (135 per regional community mental health center) will be provided intensive/crisis case management services.

Approximately \$35,427 will be allocated to the Region 12 Community Mental Health Center to provide additional community living or housing options (15 residential services beds) for individuals with serious mental illness. The new South Mississippi State Hospital will coordinate its services with those of the community mental health centers, the new 50-bed acute adult psychiatric hospital and the new state crisis center in order to ensure continuity of care before and after discharge by the hospital.