

Nuts & Bolts:

What you need to know about CSS

Mental Health Services Act

Paid for by voter approved Prop 63

CSS: Scope and Focus

- ❖ Largest component of the MHSA
- ❖ Focused on:
 - community collaboration
 - cultural competence
 - client and family driven services and systems
 - wellness, which includes concepts of recovery and resilience
 - integrated service experiences for clients and families
 - serving the unserved and underserved

Four Components of CSS

- ❖ Direct Services/FSP
- ❖ General System Development
- ❖ Outreach & Engagement
- ❖ Housing

Direct Services

❖ Services for:

- adults and older adults living with severe mental illness
- children and transitional age youth living with serious emotional disturbance

❖ Full Service Partnerships (FSP) fall in this category

- Per the California Code of Regulations, FSPs are “the collaborative relationship between the County and the client and, when appropriate, the client’s family, through which the County plans for and provides the full spectrum of community services so that the client can achieve the identified goals.”

Direct Services: County-to County Discussion

- ❖ How counties calculate whether the majority of CSS goes to FSPs/FSP clients
- ❖ MHSOAC FSP Pilot Classification Project

General System Development

❖ Programs that:

- provide mental health treatment
- improve service delivery system
- develop strategies for reducing ethnic/racial disparities

❖ Examples:

- Peer Support, Wellness Centers, Needs Assessments, Crisis Intervention/
Stabilization Services

General System Development: County-to County Discussion

❖ Examples of:

- Peer/Client/Family driven services
- Crisis Services

❖ Strategies to enhance Cultural Competence

Outreach & Engagement

- ❖ Programs to identify unserved individuals and engage them and, when appropriate, their families, in appropriate mental health services
- ❖ Funds may be used for:
 - Strategies to reduce ethnic/racial disparities
 - Food, clothing and shelter when used to engage unserved individuals in the mental health system
 - Outreach to entities and agencies such as CBOs, schools, tribal communities, community leaders, and homeless individuals

Outreach & Engagement: County-to County Discussion

- ❖ Common Challenges and Barriers to Engagement?
- ❖ Successful Strategies

Housing

- ❖ CSS funds can be used for “housing assistance”
- ❖ Per 5892.5, Housing Assistance includes:
 - **Support costs**
 - i.e., housing subsidies, master leases, motel and other housing vouchers, rental security deposits, first and last month rents, etc.
 - **Operating costs**
 - i.e., building repair and maintenance, utilities, housing agency management fees, insurance, property taxes and assessments, and credit agency reporting fees, etc.
 - **Capital costs**
 - i.e., costs incurred in purchasing, building or rehabilitating housing, etc.

Housing: County-to County Discussion

- ❖ How has AB 727 has shifted the way counties use CSS funds for housing?