

# Oklahoma Transformation Needs Assessment and Resource Inventory Report

**Governor's Transformation  
Advisory Board Meeting**

**September 7, 2006**

# Report Development Process

**January – May:** Collect and analyze key recent reports on mental health and substance abuse

**February – June:** Interview over 1,000 persons through focus groups and key interviews

**May – July:** Analyze notes from interviews

**April – August:** Analyze data from ODMHSAS, OHCA and other state agency files

**July – August:** Draft report

**August:** Feedback received from GTAB Needs Assessment subcommittee and state agencies on draft report

**September:** Revised report published for public comment

# Purposes of the Report

- To provide a justification of the need for change, in language that is accessible to all audiences
- To present the findings in a way that emphasizes the overarching goals and values of the President's New Freedom Commission Report to inform the direction of change
- To recognize the strengths of current programs
- To lay the foundation for the evaluation of change

# Invited Comments

- Did we do what we set out to do?
- What is incorrect?
- What did we miss?
- What did we place too little emphasis on?
- What did we do well?

# Next Steps

- **September 7** : Presentation to GTAB
- **Through September 15** – Continue to receive public comments
- **September 18-21** – Analyze comments received from the GTAB, state agencies, and the public, and
- **September 22** – Submit Initial Needs Assessment Report to the Center for Mental Health Services (USDHHS)

# Key Findings

- Areas of excellence in the Oklahoma mental health and substance abuse system
- Many challenges to extend the strengths of the system to all Oklahoma communities

# Areas of Excellence

- System of care programs developed
- Recent developments for systems to be more recovery focused
- Child welfare focus on kinship adoption
- Program of Assertive Community Treatment developed
- Tulsa Mental Health Association housing development

## Areas of Excellence Cont'd

- Law enforcement crisis intervention training
- Jail Diversion programs, including Mental Health and Drug Courts
- Special MH and SA programs at Joseph Harp and Mabel Bassett
- Reentry Project in Oklahoma City for persons released from prison with history of serious mental illness

# Challenges

## **System of care programs developed**

- Systems of Care has rapidly expanded but more expansion is still needed.
- Many children must be served in residential facilities because of the lack of community-based care

# Challenges

## **Program of Assertive Community Treatment development**

- PACT programs are needed in additional communities

## **Tulsa Mental Health Association housing development**

- Need for increased access to housing elsewhere in the state

# Challenges

## **Law enforcement crisis intervention training**

- Law enforcement in many localities have only one hour per year in training related to mental health or substance abuse

## **Jail Diversion programs, including Mental Health and Drug Courts**

- Jail diversion programs serve only a fraction of the persons who can be diverted into alternative programs and jails have limited resources for persons with substance abuse and mental health problems—although they constitute a large proportion of the population

# Challenges

## **Special MH and SA programs at Joseph Harp and Mabel Bassett**

- There is a need for additional treatment services for mental health and substance abuse for people in prison

## **Reentry Project in Oklahoma City for persons released from prison with history of serious mental illness**

- Many people with serious mental illness are released into the community with no supervision and no effective linkage to mental health programs

# Challenges

- There is a very large gap between persons receiving treatment and the estimates of the prevalence of mental illness and substance abuse among both adults and children
- There are inequities in access to most mental health and substance abuse services between Oklahoma counties (especially rural areas)

# Challenges

## **Workforce**

- High turnover
- Often overwhelmed by paperwork
- Gaps in training
- Gaps in experienced, qualified professionals, *e.g.*, child psychiatrists

# From Needs Assessment to Planning & Evaluation

- *To inform the direction of change*
  - The comprehensive plan is intended to provide a path for responding to these challenges.
- *To lay the foundation for the evaluation of change*
  - Beginning in October, we will begin the process of evaluating how far Oklahoma is able to go in addressing these challenges.