

## Oklahoma Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Comprehensive Plan

SAMHSA Response to Plan submitted September 30, 2006

### Overall Findings

. . . “*The Oklahoma Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Comprehensive Plan* is a well organized and well written document that provides a clearly articulated vision of the state’s intent to create a transformation plan for all of Oklahoma. . . .”

. . . “It should be noted that while the T-SIG cooperative agreement focuses on transformation of the mental health system, the State of Oklahoma has chosen to expand its focus so as to include its substance abuse system as well. As a result, the CMHP fully integrates substance abuse services, resources, and needs within both its presentation and overall transformation goals. While improving services for all Oklahomans with a substance abuse disorder, this approach will especially benefit individuals with co-occurring mental illnesses. . . .”

. . . “The organization of the *Plan* itself is well executed and provides a “stand-alone” document that offers information sufficient . . . to understand the reasons for . . . goals selected by the state, as well as for a relatively clear understanding of the strategies to be followed. . . . As such, the *Plan* provides a useful vehicle for communication among state agencies and other stakeholders . . . .”

. . . “The *Plan* also acknowledges the impact on consumers, youth, and families of policies, practices, and other considerations outside of its mental health and/or substance abuse systems. As such, collaboration among all state agencies and others represented on the Governor’s Transformation Advisory Board (G-TAB) is reflected throughout the *Plan* and addressed within many of its planned strategies and action steps. . . .”

. . . “The *Plan* is ambitious – indeed daunting – with its strategies far reaching, multi-pronged, future-oriented, and cross-system focused. Also understandably, the *Plan* spans multiple years and is very much considered a *dynamic* plan. . . .”

### SAMHSA Recommendations

. . . “While it is likely that time constraints associated with the grant itself limited opportunities, clarification of efforts taken (or planned to be taken) to engage all of the stakeholders – and especially consumers, youth, and families – would be beneficial in assuring necessary support for the *Plan*. Due to the special status of consumers and their families in the transformation process, establishment of an ongoing mechanism for these stakeholders might also be useful to assure regular input to plan activities. . . .”

. . . “The organizational approach to be followed in prioritizing, implementing, and monitoring the numerous action steps was not fully described. As the implementation process continues, clarification of the organizational approach – it would be helpful in assuring necessary *Plan* oversight, timely adjustments, and coordination with other major initiatives. . . .”

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