

Fiscal Year 2008/2009 Budget Highlights and Goals

Mental Health

FY 2008 Highlights

- Increased Medicaid revenue for eligible mental health services; formed a collaborative with other Illinois mental health authorities for the continuation of local funds certification.
- Consumer and staff county representation on statewide System Restructuring Initiative, Division of Mental Health, Mental Health Children's Partnership and Mental Health Advisory Board.
- Provided emergency cash flow relief for funded agencies; provided one time infrastructure grants to agencies.
- SASS (Screening, Assessment and Support Services) Program cited for Excellent Outcome Results by Department of Human Services.
- Launched a McHenry County "ThinkFirst" Chapter to promote awareness and prevention of traumatic brain injury in children.
- Organized a cultural competency committee to address disparities in accessing behavioral health care for McHenry County, through Family CARE
- Co-funded the county's study on affordable housing.
- Provided training and implementation for a co-occurring treatment model for adolescents involved in the Juvenile Justice System, through Family CARE.
- Increased Psychiatric care access and funding through Network providers.

FY 2009 Goals

- Provide training and support for the development of co-occurring treatment services for adults and youth (especially juvenile justice).
- Implement the use of TIP (Transitional to Independence Process) in Network Agencies and Schools throughout the County.
- Encourage strategies to reduce the rate of individuals with substance abuse seeking ongoing services through the Emergency Rooms.
- Encourage the partnership of Behavioral Healthcare Network agencies to address the issues of homeless individuals with substance abuse and/or mental illness.
- Implement the ThinkFirst chapter to increase education and awareness of TBI.
- Implement and expand the awareness of Network of Care Website as a major resource.
- Provide training opportunities through web based learning for all Mental Health Board staff and system providers with a focus on Evidence Based practices, recovery principles and cultural competency.
- Provide training and consultation to funded agencies to increase their use of outcome measurements and reporting during the FY 09-10 funding cycles. Monitor and evaluate all program service levels and achievement of performance outcomes quarterly and annually.
- Implement the Mental Health Board Cultural Competency Action Plan.
- Assist and advocate for the expansion of health and housing services in the county through cooperative partnerships, increasing the number of affordable housing units accessible to those with behavioral health disabilities.
- Increase the level of participation in Local Funds Certification on a local and statewide level.
- Encourage the utilization of consumer and parent peer advocates/ recovery specialists to provide supportive services.
- Prepare and implement the Board's recommendation for Facility enhancement.
- Improve MHB's data collection and evaluation processes to assist in the evaluation of outcomes; and projection of service needs for internal programs and funded programs.
- Review the purpose and realign McHenry County Behavioral Healthcare Network purpose to be in line with System Transformation, Consumer Recovery and Empowerment across all disabilities.