



**ACCESS**

A Campaign for  
Mental Healthcare

**ACCESS COALITION PRIORITIES FOR 2016**

**2016 New Proactive Strategies:**

1. Meet with Representatives of Health Benefits Exchange to discuss problems of the very restrictive formulary in Bronze plans which include people just barely above MediCal and result in people with serious health conditions unable to access necessary medications.
2. Follow up with DHCS data staff to get more details on the 70% of the 5% most expensive individuals who have mental illness.
3. Make MH workforce a priority and promote it to Steinberg Institute and to become a clearer long term planning responsibility for counties and priority use of one time MHSA funds.
4. Bring Reversion funds to DHCS attention to see if funds can be captured to augment funding for CCBHC (Certified Community Behavioral Health Center) planning grant and to address workforce issues. ASK to Karen Baylor.
5. Support funding for MIOCR type programs from Prop 47 funds if they are significant and from the general fund if Prop 47 funds are not significant.
6. Develop simpler ways to get TARS for medications presented and easier to approve in common conditions. ASK to Jennifer Kent.

**Items carried over from 2015 and prior years:**

1. Meet with the new Department of Health Care Fiscal Intermediary contractor for the Medi-Cal program proposed TAR reform.
2. Meet with new EQRO-Behavioral Health Concepts.
3. Invite California Association of Health Plans to discussions about issues of coordination of care and selected medication access issues first for commercial plans and separately for MediCal managed care plans.

4. Address reforms to crisis care so that people go to the right place with the right supports and in the right form of transportation. Work so that individuals needing transportation for a mental health emergency are transported in an ambulance instead of a police vehicle.
5. Health IT - Ask Susan Rajlal to arrange for LA ORCHID representative to speak at an Access Coalition meeting.
6. Continue to build a relationship with DBSA (Depressive and Bipolar Support Alliance) which is mostly peer support but has recently become interested in state policy issues and identified California as a priority state.
7. Ask California Coalition for Mental Health to review the structure, process and priorities of DHCS Behavioral Health Forum reflecting sense that the value is not comparable to the amount of time and effort involved.
8. Review problems at Atascadero on mandatory medication switching and other medication policy issues at state hospitals relying on Psychiatric Association to inform us of issues.
9. Seek re-establishment of quarterly meetings of behavioral health workgroups on duals demonstration project, monitor implementation and propose improvements if needed.
10. Monitor Section 1115 Waiver implementation of programs for integration and coordination of mental health and physical health/medical home approaches.
11. Identify problems and respond to County Formulary Restrictions that seem common for jail populations. Work with County projected "Stepping Up to develop paper to send to Sheriffs and others of interest.
12. Continue to work to support recidivism reduction strategies.
13. Continue to support efforts to improve Parity enforcement.
14. Review and advocate on State Budget impacts on behavioral health.
15. Advocate for removal of all limitations that inhibit same day billing for different types of services.

**Membership expansion:**

1. EQRO - Rusty
2. American Psychiatric Nurses Association - Caren

3. Jim Beall staff person - Rusty
4. Ridley Thomas staff person - Rusty
5. California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions (CiBHS) - Rusty
6. Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) Executive Director - Rusty
7. California Mental Health Counselors Association –Randall to get Rusty information
8. California Association of Physician Groups (CAPG) - Caren
9. Probation officers -Molly
10. DHCS - Rusty ASK Karen
11. OPA (Office of Patient Advocate within DMHC) -Rusty
12. Police Chiefs -Molly
13. Sheriffs - Molly
14. REMHDCO (racial and mental health disparities coalition)- Rusty
15. CPEHN (California Pan Ethnic Health Network) – Rusty
16. CSAC (county supervisor)- Helen Thomson via Randall