

Mental Health Services Act

Overview

Historically, mental health services in California have been grossly under-funded. It is estimated that over 600,000 people (including 300,000 children) living in California today do not receive the mental health services they need. In response to this need, voters approved the Mental Health Services Act (Prop 63) in November 2004, to fund expanded mental health services to children and adults. MHSA/Prop 63 funding derives from a 1% annual tax surcharge on those with personal incomes above \$1million. The funding is expected to last for an unlimited amount of time.

Vision

To create a state-of-the-art, culturally competent system that promotes recovery/wellness for adults and older adults with severe mental illness and resiliency for children with serious emotional disorders and their families.

Strategies

- Training – building the capacity of staff and partners
- Outreach – consumer centered systems and programs
- Service Delivery – coordinated, integrated, family-centered, culturally and linguistically competent

Outcomes

- Access is improved
- Services are more effective
- **Out-of-home and institutional care are reduced**
- **Stigma towards those with mental illness no longer exists**