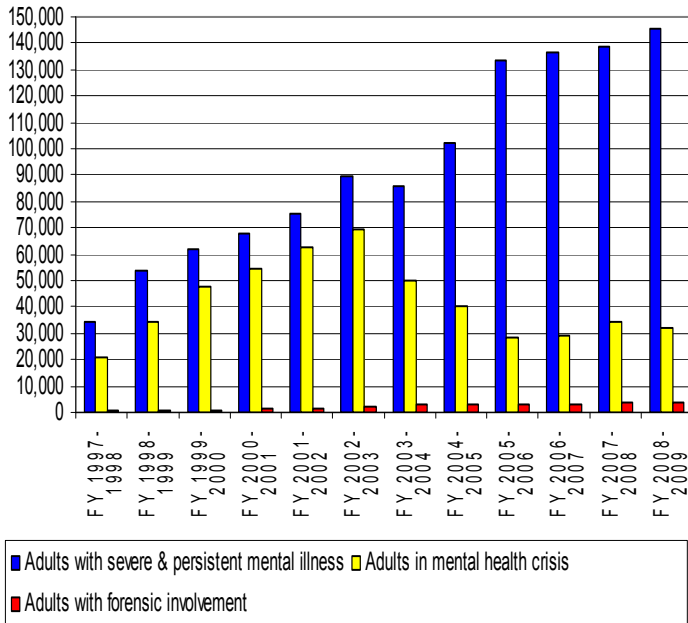




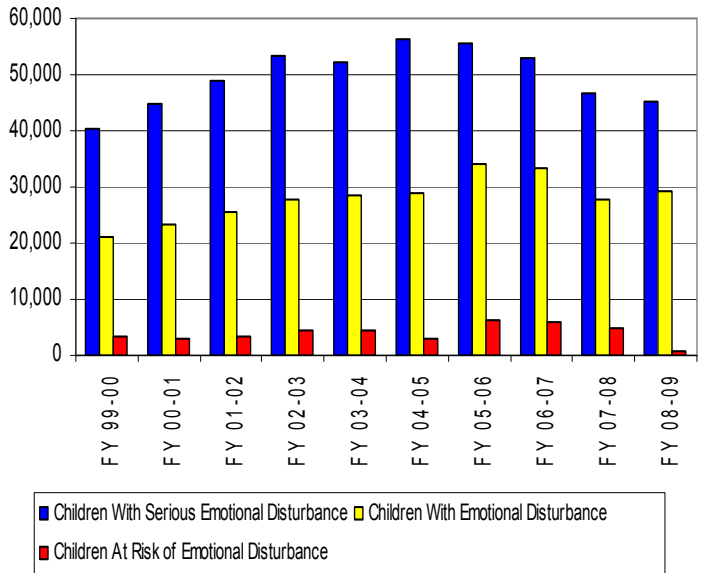
# Community Mental Health

1317 Winwood Boulevard, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0700

Target Populations Served from FY 97-98 through FY 08-09



Target Populations Served from FY 99-00 through FY 08-09



## Major Initiatives, Key Accomplishments:

### Trauma-Informed Care (TIC)

The Department is committed to integrating TIC into the Mental Health System. An Interagency Trauma-Informed Care Workgroup meets quarterly to discuss action steps toward integrating trauma-informed care into the state's mental health system. DCF would like to secure funding needed to develop a web-based system for training treatment staff and for integrating trauma-informed care practices within substance abuse and mental health programs and its service providers. Crisis Intervention Training is a model used to train law enforcement officers on the challenges that people with mentally illnesses face and to teach skills for interacting more effectively with these individuals. In addition, DCF is developing training materials regarding mental illnesses for assisted living facilities and nursing homes to reduce the incidence of inappropriate use of involuntary examinations proceedings, which, in turn, reduces transfer-trauma.

### SOAR Training

The mental Health Program Office is actively increasing the availability of SSI/SSDI Outreach Access and Recovery (SOAR) training across the state. This training initiative teaches workers in the mental health field how to assist people in completing SSI/SSDI applications so that they are approved

by the Social Security Administration expeditiously. For example, for fiscal year 08-09, data for the Miami-Dade and Monroe County area has shown that 81% of completed applications are approved and the average time to a decision is 69 days (the national average rate of approvals is 37%, taking approximately 9-12 months for a decision or 1-2 years for appeals). This translates to a cost savings for the State of approximately \$2 million annually. The end result is that people receive funds for housing and other needs. We have, to date, trained 47 Train-the-Trainers and held 32 statewide trainings, reaching more than 764 professionals

### Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grants

The 2007 Florida Legislature enacted legislation creating the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse (CJMHS) Reinvestment Grant Program. Since 2007, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Corporation awarded over 9.6 million dollars to 23 Florida counties. The purpose of this Program was to address the need for appropriate treatment of individuals with mental illnesses, or those with co-occurring

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substance abuse and mental health disorders, who are at-risk of entering or are involved in criminal and juvenile justice systems. These funds were designed to help each county plan, implement, or expand strategic initiatives to increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal and juvenile justice, and improve the accessibility and effectiveness of treatment services.

### **Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR)**

In the 2007 legislative session, the Department obtained full legislative budget authority for the PASRR Level II process for nursing home residents. The Department contracts with a vendor with expertise in providing Level II PASRR evaluations who produced a state-of-the-art web-based referral and evaluation system. A total of 4,681 individuals have been screened during the twelve month period from June 1, 2008 to May 31, 2009.

### **Department of Corrections – End of Sentence Online Referral System**

For the past two years, the Department of Children and Families and the Department of Corrections have collaborated to create a jointly operated data system through which community aftercare appointments are made for inmates with serious mental illnesses who are approaching the end of their sentences. The referral system involves contracted community mental health providers. Each entity has real time data available on the status of referrals and appointments kept. This unique, state-of-the-art system became fully operational during the last quarter of fiscal year 2007-2008. Since that time, 4,350 referrals have been made through the system.

### **Veterans Grant**

The Department was recently awarded the Jail Diversion and Trauma Recovery Grant through SAMHSA. This five year award will assist the coordination of substance abuse and mental health services for veterans and their families and to strengthen jail diversion services for veterans, particularly those with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. The grant will provide funding for the development of a veteran's peer support specialist certification process, and allow for the implementation of two community-based pilot programs designed to increase identification, assessment, linkage, access to trauma-related care, and peer support services for veterans with mental health needs. Hillsborough County has been selected as the first pilot area.

### **SAMHSA System of Care Grant**

Florida currently has one SAMHSA System of Care grant focusing on the mental health needs of the 0-8 population. The availability of these grants has provided Children's Mental Health staff information from lessons learned by each of the grant site. While not every area of the state has access to the funding and training that goes along with these grant sites, they can use the sites to measure progress toward developing their own community-based systems of care.

### **Rapid Response Team**

The Departments of Juvenile Justice, Children and Families Children's Mental Health Unit, Agency for Persons with Disabilities and the Agency for Health Care Administration have formed a Rapid Response Team through a Memorandum of Understanding. This team serves to resolve placement or service delivery concerns for children served by these agencies. The team will also review and amend practices and policies that impede the ability to meet the individual needs of the children.

### **Enhanced Behavioral Health Services**

In an effort to improve treatment compliance and promote family-centered practices and strength-based/solutions-focused services, Circuit One (Escambia, Walton Santa Rosa, Okaloosa) will implement Enhanced Behavioral Health Services in FY 2009-2010. Services are provided by behavioral health provider employees in each county of the Circuit who has competencies in the following areas: co-occurring disorders (substance abuse and mental health); crisis intervention; skills-building; case consultation; and case management. In each county in the Circuit, Service Integration Meetings are being convened. The goals of the meetings are to identify service barriers, improve communication and solve identified problems in order to better serve the target population.

### **Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation**

As part of a collaborative initiative, Children's Mental Health has moved forward toward developing a model for early childhood mental health consultation. Children's Mental Health has drafted a Request for Information (RFI) to identify a qualified vendor to conduct a statewide survey to identify those locations that have implemented Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation services in child care centers.

### **Rural Mental Health**

In January 2009, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration undertook a major initiative to eliminate disparities in mental health care. The Mental Health Program Office applied and was one of six states chosen to receive a grant. The Florida Interagency Team chose to focus on eliminating geography as a barrier to quality mental health services. The project embraces modern technology as a critical catalyst for improving access and enhancing the quality of mental health services for rural Floridians through the use of telecommunications networks.

**Mental Health Program Mission:**  
"To help children, families, and adults to live successfully in their communities, be self-sufficient, and realize their full potential."

# Transformation Efforts

## Transformation Transfer Initiative

Through receipt of funds from the CMHS-sponsored Transformation Transfer Initiative (TTI), the State Mental Health Program Office saw an opportunity to create and enhance community partnerships by regionalizing and diversifying the operation of the single, state-level Recovery and Resiliency Task Force. The Mental Health Program Office believed it was critical that each of the six Regions constitute such a group to participate in decision-making at the Regional and Circuit levels. The TTI grant-funded project, 'Recovery and Resiliency: A Way of Life', has provided Florida much needed support to: build consumer organization infrastructure; maintain the fidelity of the successful statewide membership model; provide leadership training to newly established groups; provide support, technical assistance, and training to local stakeholder advisory groups in various stages of development; and offer Certified Peer Specialists training and technical assistance as a part of the leadership initiative.

## "Leadership and Beyond" Training

The Mental Health Program Office provided training through a contract with the Florida Peer Network entitled, 'Leadership and Beyond'. This was a two-day training covering leadership, self-advocacy, system advocacy, meeting management, and the roles and responsibilities associated with any type of board membership.

## Certified Recovery Peer Specialist Program

The Mental Health Program Office of Consumer and Family Affairs, in partnership with the Florida Certification Board, has developed and implemented the nation's first systemic, integrated Peer Specialists program. The umbrella program offers three different certifications: Certified Recovery Peer Specialist, Certified Recovery Peer Specialists – Adult, and Certified Recovery Peer Specialist – Family. Of special significance is the use of the word "Recovery" in the title of the certification - this leaves no doubt as to the purpose and the intent of the work-scope. The Florida Certification Board has certified more than 825 consumers (Certified Recovery Peer Specialists) to provide peer driven services throughout Florida. This implementation process recognizes these new peer professionals at the statewide level, allowing them to work with the SAMH system throughout Florida.

## Recovery Oriented System Indicators

Florida developed a database system to store, analyze and report data collected as part of the Recovery Oriented System Indicators (ROSI). Consumers and family members who received training and were certified as mental health peer recovery specialists were responsible for collecting the ROSI data at the local provider agency level. At the state level, the Chief of Consumer and Family Affairs in the Headquarters Program Office is responsible for the coordination of activities related to the ROSI data analysis and reporting, as well as the statewide distribution of this data.

## Infant Mental Health Program

Infant mental health services are available across the state. The Florida State University Harris Center for Infant Mental Health has received continued funding and will provide postgraduate training in infant mental health to clinicians.

## Family Inclusion

The Department is committed to improving family inclusion. The Mental Health Program Office believes a strong family organization will be instrumental in assisting it achieve this goal. To that end, the Department is working closely with both the Federation of Families and the NAMI to identify ways it can support the expansions of these groups across the state.

The Program Office has identified 12 family organizations to include on statewide conference calls. These calls have been coordinated by the Federation of Families of Palm Beach County, and are providing a beginning place for the development of a statewide family organization for children with emotional disturbance.

## Department of Children and Families Mission:

**"Protect the Vulnerable, Promote Strong and Economically Self-Sufficient Families, and Advance Personal and Family Recovery and Resiliency"**