

### ***Consolidated Planning Advisory Workgroup (CPAW) -***

The California Department of Mental Health mandates that a community program planning process serve as the basis for all Mental Health Services Act (Proposition 63) planning. In Contra Costa County, the Consolidated Planning Advisory Workgroup (CPAW) serves in this capacity, assisting the Mental Health Division with integrated planning, increasing the transparency of MHSA efforts, and advising the Mental Health Division on how to integrate MHSA principles and practices. CPAW gives a variety of members from the mental health community an opportunity to provide input for system growth and change.

Welfare and Institutions Code section 5848 states: "Each plan and plan update shall be developed with *local stakeholders, including adults and seniors with severe mental illness, families of children, adults, and seniors with severe mental illness, providers of mental health services, law enforcement agencies, education, social service agencies, veterans, representatives from veteran's organizations, and other important interests*" (emphasis added).

Additionally, The California Code of Regulations, Title 9, Chapter 14, Section 3200.270 states: "Stakeholders means individuals or entities with an interest in mental health services in the State of California, including but not limited to: individuals with serious mental illness and/or serious emotional disturbance and/or their families; providers of mental health and/or related services such as physical health care and/or social services; educators and/or representatives of education; representatives of law enforcement; and any other organization that represents the interests of individuals with serious mental illness and/or serious emotional disturbance and/or their families".

**It is important to note** that CPAW is **not** an advisory board, committee or commission to the Board of Supervisors. It is a workgroup established under State statute to advise County Mental Health staff, not the County Board of Supervisors. It is not required to function under the Brown Act or Better Government Ordinance, although all of its meetings are publicly noticed and the public are invited to attend.

### ***Purpose***

CPAW has 35 seats and 22 members currently representing various stakeholder entities as described in the above regulations. They are actively recruiting to fill the vacancies. Individual members can represent several of the disciplines listed. For example, one member represents the following areas: Transitional Age Youth, Planning and Early Intervention for those over 25 years of age, Workforce Education and Training, Information Technology, Consumer, Mental Health Provider, and Central Contra Costa County. The Mental Health Commission has appointed two of its members to represent the Commission on the Workgroup.

CPAW members are appointed by the Mental Health Director, and represent stakeholders who receive or provide services, or who are otherwise involved in public mental health services in Contra Costa County. CPAW 1) assists in the ongoing development and

evaluation of the programs and plan elements that comprise the MHSA Three Year Program and Expenditure Plan, and subsequent yearly Plan Updates, 2) advises on the integration of the values and principles inherent in MHSA into the larger public mental health system, and 3) promotes transparency of effort by sharing information with the stakeholder community

### ***CPAW Committees***

CPAW meets to discuss and advise on areas of topical interest, and to receive reports from the following CPAW sponsored sub-committees:

- Steering. Develops the CPAW Committee meeting agenda, and represents CPAW on selected issues.
- Membership. Recommends prospective applicants to the CCMH Director for membership.
- Innovation. Recommends new Innovation Projects and monitors and evaluates existing projects.
- Social Inclusion. Oversees mental health stigma and discrimination reduction initiatives.
- Housing. Plans and advises on new and existing housing and homeless services.
- Age-related Committees. Children's, Transition Age Youth, Adult, and Aging/Older Adult sub-committees advise on planning and evaluation of services and supports specific to the age groups served by CCMH.