

# COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

- Goals and Strategies

## GOAL I:

**AMERICANS UNDERSTAND THAT MENTAL HEALTH IS ESSENTIAL TO OVERALL HEALTH**

### 1.1: Build community health by combating stigma

- **Strategy 1.11: Study and learn from anti-stigma efforts so as to develop an anti-stigma initiative for Texas.**
- **Strategy 1.12: Develop mechanisms to assess and address stigma within service delivery system of the various TWG agencies.**

### 1.2: Integrate health and behavioral health services.

- **Strategy 1.21: Explore and develop operational plans and initiatives in each of the areas listed.**

## GOAL II:

**MENTAL HEALTH CARE IS CONSUMER AND FAMILY DRIVEN**

### 2.1: Develop a system which is consumer and family driven

- **Strategy 2.11: Build a recovery culture through education and networking initiatives at the state and local levels.**
- **Strategy 2.12: Build improved education, networking and information exchange opportunities for consumers, family members and their organizations.**
- **Strategy 2.13: Initiate a state-level effort to implement peer support programs across the state.**
- **Strategy 2.14: Explore partnership models with consumers and family members at state and local levels.**

**GOAL III:**

**DISPARITIES IN MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ARE ELIMINATED**

**3.1: Coordinate the assessment and reduction of racial/ethnic disparities across agencies.**

- **Strategy 3.11:** Identify key state agency initiatives related to the reduction of disparities and opportunities for collaboration.
- **Strategy 3.12:** Develop and implement metrics related to reduction of disparities across agencies.

**3.2: Develop infrastructure and models related to improved access and quality of care in rural areas.**

- **Strategy 3.21:** Use telemedicine and new technologies to increase access and quality of behavioral healthcare in rural areas.
- **Strategy 3.22:** Explore initiatives related to workforce development that address shortages of mental health professionals in rural areas.
- **Strategy 3.23:** Establish community behavioral health collaboratives in rural areas as a prototype for development of infrastructure related to behavioral health services in rural areas.

**GOAL IV:**

**EARLY MENTAL HEALTH SCREENING, ASSESSMENT AND REFERRAL TO SERVICES ARE COMMON PRACTICES**

**4.1: Develop the mental health system for *all* Texans**

**Returning Veterans and their Families**

- **Strategy 4.11:** Develop a collaborative initiative among the Veteran's Health Administration, the Texas Veteran's Commission, the Department of State Health Services, and other agencies with the objective of early detection and intervention for returning veterans and their families. This could involve the development of appropriate screening instruments; coordination among several state agencies; and

transfer of technology initiatives from the VA to the state agencies.

**Children/Adolescents in pre-school and school settings.**

- **Strategy 4.12:** Assess the current situation in Texas on the availability, linkages with the community, and financing for school-based mental health services.
- **Strategy 4.13:** Develop linkages between the community collaboratives proposed under the transformation initiatives with the education collaboratives. (In some cases, depending on the priorities of a community, the education collaborative could serve as the community behavioral health collaborative.)
- **Strategy 4.14:** Build on current initiatives related to early childhood intervention, SAMHSA – supported systems of care projects, and the Texas Integrated Funding Initiative related to the objective of building a population-based, early intervention approach for children/adolescents.

**Older Adults**

- **Strategy 4.15:** Explore implementation of evidence-based practices for older adults requiring behavioral health services through both state-level and local initiatives.

**4.2: Develop a mental health system which is seamless and has “no wrong door”**

- **Strategy 4.21:** Develop six community behavioral health collaboratives within the state so that they can serve as a prototype for statewide transformation.

**GOAL V:**

**EXCELLENT MENTAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM IS DELIVERED**

**5.1: Develop a state-of-the-art system which has high quality services, consistent with high standards, regulations and reporting requirements across agencies.**

**5.2: Develop a workforce training infrastructure that supports providers of care**

- **Strategy 5.21:** Develop collaborations with universities and community colleges.
- **Strategy 5.22:** Work with licensing/credentialing bodies and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Council to address curriculum requirements.
- **Strategy 5.23:** Facilitate the credentialing and employment of consumers and family members in the workforce.
- **Strategy 5.24:** Address rural workforce development needs through the use of telehealth and other technologies.

**5.3: Develop a comprehensive array of services for persons experiencing a mental health and/or substance abuse crisis.**

- **Strategy 5.31:** Develop connections between the community collaboratives initiative and crisis redesign so that these are regarded as an integrated effort to move forward with community collaboration and integration.

**5.4: Develop an interagency housing initiative to serve mental health populations and investigate their rates of success and service satisfaction as it relates to consumer standards.**

- **Strategy 5.41:** Evaluating the overall perspective of consumers, including children and adults, to determine what programs are serving the greatest number of the greatest need.
- **Strategy 5.42:** Working to establish a better understanding of crisis housing that exists, and how it can be modified to work more closely with treatment phases.

- **Strategy 5.43:** Increasing collaboration between all state and local agencies so that consumers will not find a “wrong door” as they seek out care and services.
- **Strategy 5.44:** Discourage the segregation or alienation of persons with mental health needs and their families by evaluating housing situations with the hopes of creating peer support and awareness through the community.

**5.5: Develop an interagency initiative to increase employment opportunities, incentives and supports for persons with mental illness.**

- **Strategy 5.51:** Explore opportunities for increasing employment opportunities, incentives and supports for persons with mental illness across agencies.

**5.6: Develop public-private partnerships with employers in the state.**

- **Strategy 5.61:** A one-day meeting with Business Group employer-members to discuss the findings and recommendation of the *Guide*. Henry Harbin, MD, a healthcare benefits expert and Ron Finch, Ed.D, will lead the discussion.
- **Strategy 5.62:** A one-day meeting with Business Group members and state mental health officials to establish an Advisory Board to guide the implementation of the Guide’s recommendations. An Advisory Board Charter will be developed to guide its functions. A Gantt chart of initial demonstration project activities will also be developed.

**GOAL VI:**

**TECHNOLOGY IS USED TO ACCESS MENTAL HEALTH CARE AND INFORMATION**

**6.1: Use state-of-the-art technology in the delivery and coordination of care, including inter-agency data-sharing capacity, use of telemedicine, instant messaging, web-based systems and electronic health records.**

- **Strategy 6.11:** Develop mechanisms for data coordination and exchange across agencies at the state level.
- **Strategy 6.12:** Participate in the federal SAMHSA initiative for obtaining behavioral health data across agencies using standardized protocols and instruments.
- **Strategy 6.13:** Support the use of new technologies and implementation of data and information exchange mechanisms at the local community level through the community collaborative component of transformation activities.
- **Strategy 6.14:** Develop recommendations for and participate in federal and state-level initiatives to ensure that behavioral health services are adequately reflected in EHR initiatives.