

State Mental Health Planning Council  
Strategic Planning Initiative  
2018 – 2023

**VISION STATEMENT**

The Council shall promote respect, dignity and access to prevention, early intervention, health engagement and activation, housing, employment and other support services that encourage individuals of all ages and their families to develop resilience, fully recover and be productive members of their communities.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Massachusetts Mental Health Planning Council provides informed advice and perspective to the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health on key policy and program issues affecting individuals of all ages in the Commonwealth who are at risk for, or have, mental health conditions and their families, and advocates for decision making and actions that protect and advance their health and well-being.

**Guiding Principles:**

This advice and advocacy shall be aligned with the following guiding principles:

- Mental Health is a key part of overall health;
- Integration of mental health, substance use, and primary care services produces the best outcomes and proves the most effective approach to caring for people of all ages with behavioral health conditions and multiple healthcare needs;
- Promotion of Prevention, Early Intervention, Resiliency, and Recovery as well as fair and timely access to health care, income, education, employment and housing are important for the protection of and improvement in mental health and behavioral health;
- It is important to foster the strengths of individuals of all ages with lived experience, their families, communities and the organizations serving them;
- Innovative evidence based programs and best practices should be regularly examined for applicability to, and replication in, Massachusetts and promising models should be identified and pursued for implementation;
- It is important to foster an understanding of Social Determinants of Mental Health and incorporate that understanding in policy and program planning;
- Alignment of mental health policy across all state government agencies will promote better efficiency and effectiveness in providing individuals of all ages and their families with the mental health services and supports they need.