

SMHPC Vision, Mission, Goals, & Structure

State Mental Health Planning Council (SMHPC)

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SMHPC Vision



Vision

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.**

SMHPC Mission



Mission

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.

SMHPC Strategic Goals



1. **Streamline the Council Subcommittee structure** and determine appropriate subcommittee composition **to improve coordination, increase diversity, and enhance the Council's and Subcommittees' effectiveness.** This will enable the Council and the Subcommittees to better understand the impact of policies and programs determined by the SMHPC on different groups served by the Council and its subcommittees.
2. **Strengthen the depth and breadth of knowledge of the Council and subcommittee membership** about key initiatives and actions that impact mental health services in order for the Council to **provide informed advice and perspective to DMH.**
3. **Support each subcommittee in its identification of innovation, best practices and promising models in Massachusetts and nationally,** and encourage each subcommittee to submit to the Council those which have replication potential in the Commonwealth.

SMHPC Activities to Integrate



Since 2018, the SMHPC has taken several steps to implement Strategic Goals:

- Determining that SMHPC Subcommittee structure would reflect age group and functional activities:
 - Children
 - Youth
 - Older Adults
 - Housing
 - Employment
- Determining that structure would integrate consideration of cross-cutting concerns and strengthen knowledge and focus of respective subcommittees.
 - For example, SMHPC eliminated subcommittee focused on diverse racial, cultural and linguistic groups and directed each remaining subcommittee to take up as a priority these concerns to promote integration across age group and functional activities.
 - For example, SMHPC determined to increase focus on needs of people with co-occurring mental health *and* substance use conditions, and has done so in Youth and Housing Subcommittees and in SMHPC Meetings.

Address Co-Occurring ASD/IDD



Question posed to SMHPC: How to address the needs of people with co-occurring mental health conditions and ASD and/or IDD?

- **In each age group focused Subcommittee?**
 - **Children**
 - **Youth**
 - **Older Adults**
- **In each functionally focused Subcommittee?**
 - **Housing**
 - **Employment**
- **In the State Mental Health Council Meetings?**
 - **Inviting Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to the Council Meetings**
 - **Scheduling presentations on needs of and services for individuals with co-occurring mental health and autism conditions**
- **Other?**