Stigmatizing Language Removed from California Law

The California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA), the Stigma and Discrimination Reduction (SDR) Consortium, and Disability Rights California are proud to announce that Gov. Jerry Brown has signed AB 1847 (Chesbro). AB 1847 removes from California law hundreds of outdated and inaccurate terms used to describe people with mental health challenges.

Updating California laws to replace outdated and inaccurate terms with person-centered language is an important victory for Each Mind Matters: California's Mental Health Movement.

Just a few examples of the stigmatizing language removed from California law include:

* California law governing access to educational
programs for school age children described some children in state hospitals as "mentally disordered."

* "Incurable insanity" was described as a criterion for divorce.

* Laws concerning the custody of children use the terms "the mentally ill, mentally defective or epileptic" to describe appropriate placements.

Thank you for your support as our organizations worked to remove these outdated references that perpetuated stigma and false assumptions about people with mental health challenges, and to reduce discrimination faced by people with mental health challenges.

For more information on Each Mind Matters' campaign to reduce Stigma and Discrimination, visit www.EachMindMatters.org.

The California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) is an organization of county governments working to improve mental health outcomes for individuals, families and communities. Prevention and Early Intervention Programs implemented by CalMHSA are funded by counties through the voter-approved Mental Health Services Act (Prop. 63). For more information visit www.calmhsa.org.
Directing Change Program: PSA Submission Deadline is February 1st, 2015

The Directing Change Student Video program is a statewide competition where high school and UC students take action against suicide and end the stigma of mental illness by creating 60-second public service announcements. Directing Change is part of statewide efforts to prevent suicide, reduce stigma and discrimination related to mental illness, and to promote the mental health and wellness of students. The submission deadline for the 2014-2015 school year is February 1st, 2015. Visit www.directingchange.org for more details.

A total of 432 films, representing 996 students from 112 high schools and 9 University of California campus locations and 31 counties, were received during the 2013-2014 school year. DVDs of the 2013-2014 finalists are available upon request while supplies last. For more details, contact Lauren Hee at Lauren@namica.org or 916-567-0163. All PSAs are also available for download at www.directingchange.org.

Please watch for all NAMI California education programs trainings for fiscal year 2014-2015 to be posted soon in this Weekly News Report. See also Family Programs blog for updates, news etc. http://namifamily.blogspot.com
Send inquiries to:

- **Family Programs** - Lynn@namica.org
- **IOOV, Peer to Peer and Connection** - Stephenie@namica.org
- **Parents and Teachers as Allies, Ending the Silence, NAMI on Campus, Provider Education** - Kelly@namica.org
- **Directing Change** - Lauren@namica.org
- **Programs Director, Beth Wolf (Larkins)** - Beth@namica.org

NAMI California Office: 916-567-0163

California State Senate Passes NAMI California Sponsored Resolution Establishing July as Bebe Moore Campbell Minority Mental Health Month - Raising Awareness of Communities of Color

On August 18th, the California State Senate passed the NAMI California sponsored resolution recognizing July as Bebe Moore Campbell Minority Mental Health Month. Following the 2008 proclamation from the United States House of Representatives, National Minority Mental Health
Awareness Month was created to raise awareness about severe mental illness in diverse communities of color, while highlighting avenues for wellness and recovery.

The legislation, ACR 163, authored by California State Assemblymember Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, recognizes July as Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month in State of California. Assemblymember Sebastian Ridley-Thomas is the Chair of the newly established Assembly Select Committee on Mental and Behavioral Health. Senator Jim Beall presented the legislation in the Senate, which passed it with a 36-0 vote.

**MHSMOAC Commission to Meet August 28 in Sacramento**

The next meeting of the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission will be held on August 28, 2014 from 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM at the offices of the MHSMOAC located at 1325 J Street, Suite 1700, Sacramento. The call-in Number for the meeting is 866-817-6550 and the participation Code is 3190377.

**Among the agenda items:**
The Commission will be presented with eight sections of the comments received during the 45-day public comment period on the proposed Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) regulations, sections 3704 through 3740, and staff's recommended responses to the public comments. The Commission will decide whether to make any changes to the proposed PEI regulations based on the public comments.

An important white paper, "Policy and Procedures Paper- How Evaluation Efforts Can Contribute to MHSOAC-Adopted Oversight and Accountability Strategies: Encouraging Positive Outcomes Across the State" will be presented. This Policy Paper builds off of the Accountability through Evaluation Policy Paper that was adopted by the Commission in 2010. The current Paper is intended to provide the MHSOAC with direction regarding its evaluation efforts, given recent advancements that have taken place since 2010.

The Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) Consumer and Family Leadership Committee will hold three separate meetings on Tuesday, August 19th.

All meetings are held at the MHSOAC offices at 1325 J St, Suite 1700, Sacramento. The call in number, 866-817-6533 and the participation Code, 1189021, are the same for all meetings.

The Client and Family Leadership Committee Workgroup: Explore Outreach to Clients not Achieving Recovery, will meet from 9:30am to 11:00am. The main agenda item is to review and discuss summary of ideas resulting from June 17, 2014 meeting regarding exploring outreach to clients not achieving recovery. The committee will discuss types of clients to focus upon in exploring what groups of individuals with serious mental illness are not moving toward recovery and discuss methods available to measure recovery.

The main Client and Family Leadership Committee meeting will be from 12:00am to 3:00pm continue the discussion with a report from the Workgroup.

Following that will be a meeting of the Community Forum Workgroup from 3:00pm to 4:00pm. They will discuss new surveys for the Forum and debrief from the MHSOAC Forum recently held in Mono County.

The agenda for these meetings can be found here:
California Prison Officials Rethink Use of Force on Mentally Ill Inmates

Prison Guards Would Be Required to Consider Mental-Health Status Before Using Force

The Wall Street Journal

Under the new policies, announced Friday, prison guards would have to consider inmates' mental-health status and ability to understand orders before using force. The use of pepper spray would also be limited, and hundreds of prisoners with mental illnesses would be removed from solitary confinement, according to attorneys representing the prisoner plaintiffs.

States throughout the country are continuing to grapple with large populations of mentally ill prisoners. In California, more than 37,000 inmates—or just under 28% of the prison population—have mental-health issues, according to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

California's new policy proposal is the latest chapter in litigation between prisoners and the state over mental-health care and overcrowding, initiated in 1991, which led to a 2009 ruling by a panel of federal judges to trim the state prison population. Earlier this year, California won a delay of an order to reduce overcrowding and has until 2016 to reach the court-mandated 137.5% capacity. The prison system is now at 140.3% capacity, according to a prison system
spokeswoman.

Check Facebook for Breaking News!

Check https://www.facebook.com/namicalifornia for breaking news about legislation or NAMI California program and events.

Contact Us

1851 Heritage Lane, Ste 150
Sacramento, CA 95815
Phone: 916-567-0163
Fax: 916-567-1757
Email: newsletter@namicalifornia.org

Forward this email

This email was sent to newsletter@namicalifornia.org by newsletter@namicalifornia.org | Update Profile/Email Address | Rapid removal with SafeUnsubscribe™ | Privacy Policy.