

**Harris County Systems of Hope
Cultural and Linguistic Competence (CLC) Work Team
6300 Chimney Rock Road • Houston, Texas 77081
Wednesday, March 11, 2009 4:00p.m.**

Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Taren Bates, Dr. Nora Benny, Pam Bonsu, Larry D. Brown, Jr., Magno Guillen, Dr. Samoan Johnson, Esteban Mayers, Mike Migura

Dr. Samoan Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm. She welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the year and proceeded with introductions.

Systems of Hope Update

Larry Brown gave a brief update of Systems of Hope (SOH), providing information on the status of program restructuring, staffing and new efforts. Specially, Mr. Brown spoke about the new Harris County Juvenile Mental Health Court, which is the newest area for one of seven care teams. Staff from SOH, Harris County Juvenile Probation Department and the MH Court Judge visited two California Juvenile Mental Health courts (the first established) in early March to meet with stakeholders and observe their court process. To date, SOH has received a little over fifty percent of the MH court cases.

In addition, SOH has joined in the efforts of the DFPS Disproportionality group as well as the Harris County Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative group. Mr. Brown stated he would like the CLC workgroup to incorporate these efforts into the CLC strategic plan.

Organizational CLC Assessment

The organizational CLC assessment and reports have been completed for Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults, Harris County Juvenile Probation Department, City of Houston, Health and Human Services Departments, DePelchin Children's Center, and Mental Health-Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County. SOH is moving to Phase III: Organizational follow up. This phase will involve SOH staff and the CLC workgroup to provide assistance in implementing changes, as recommended in the report. Janis Bane, Project Director, SOH, informed the five partnering agencies that the SOH CLC Coordinator is available to provide direct assistance and service to their agency as a part of the grant's cooperative agreement.

Mission/Vision

Dr. Johnson gave an overview of the CLC workgroup, providing the charge and functions of the group. The group began discussing strategies to address the charge, suggesting training, systems/program integration. The group will be

forwarding additional suggestions to Larry Brown via email to present at the next meeting.

Strategic Planning

Dr. Johnson led the discussion on the need to develop a strategic plan. The plan would serve as a guide to ensure SOH and the CLC workgroup are intentional in planning and meeting program and federal targets and guidelines. The strategic plan will involve planning at the systems, community and practice levels. The April meeting will be dedicated to actually drafting the plan. CLC workgroup members are encouraged to email suggestions, strategies, outcomes and other related matters to Larry Brown. Mr. Brown will use this information in preparing a working draft to bring to the net meeting.

Next steps

- Develop clear mission and vision Statements
- Develop CLC strategic plan and prioritize goals.
- Establish CLC meeting schedule.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40pm

Next meeting – Wednesday, April 22, 2009