

From: 1115 Behavioral Health Assessment (DHCS)
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Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2012 2:34 PM
Subject: Release of Draft 1115 Waiver Behavioral Health Services Needs Assessment for Public Review and Comment, 1/31 - 2/13

Dear Interested Parties:

The Department of Health Care Services is pleased to release the DRAFT 1115 Waiver Behavioral Health Services Needs Assessment (Needs Assessment) for public review and comment, 1/31 – 2/13. We have separated the Needs Assessment into two documents to make it easier for the reader to follow along with the tables while reading the narrative.

We would ask that, to the extent practical, county government representatives provide their feedback on the Needs Assessment to their respective county associations ahead of the meeting scheduled specifically for this purpose during the CiMH conference on February 9. During this session, scheduled as part of the larger CiMH conference, both substance use associations and mental health associations will each lead a panel discussion to present prioritized feedback from county officials to the report. In addition, we have scheduled a session with consumer and family association representatives to gather prioritized feedback from consumer and family groups. We will release a “major themes” document on our website highlighting feedback from the public comment process that we plan to incorporate into the final report.

We would like to thank the California Endowment and the Substance Use and Mental Health Services Administration for the funding of the Needs Assessment. We would also like to thank the numerous consumers, family members, providers, advocates, and associations for their time and input into this process. Our vendor, Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc. and Human Services Research Institute, could not have learned what they did in so short a time without the assistance and input of all these individuals.

The DRAFT Needs Assessment can be found at the following website:
<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/BehavioralHealthServicesAssessmentPlan.aspx>.

Any questions, comments, or requests to be included in our communications should be e-mailed to the following inbox: 1115BehavioralHealthAssessment@dhcs.ca.gov.