
Provide input into this year's Statewide Comprehensive Plan for Mental Health Services

For OMH, this is a year when we prepare to move from one five-year Plan to the next. Let us know your priorities for a changing health care environment. We will use your input to help guide the development of behavioral health networks and "health homes."¹

Send your thoughts to transformation@omh.ny.gov before September 16, 2011 or [fill out our online Comment Card](#)

¹Simply put, a health home may be a place or it may be a group of people that a person can engage with and rely upon to address medical and behavioral needs comprehensively, in an integrated and coordinated fashion.

Save the Date Annual OMH public hearing

September 13, 2011

2 to 4 PM

Hosted by Commissioner Hogan via videoconference at the following sites:

Albany – 44 Holland Avenue, 8th Floor Conference Room

New York City – NYS OMH New York City Field Office, 330 Fifth Avenue, 9th Floor

Long Island – Pilgrim Psychiatric Center, 998 Crooked Hill Road, Rehabilitation Center, Room C4, West Brentwood

Syracuse – NYS OMH Central New York Field Office, 545 Cedar Street, Training Room 204



Tell Us Your Thoughts . . .

In January, Governor Cuomo outlined his plan to address the serious fiscal challenges facing the State. Since then he has been at the helm of the State's effort to institute fundamental change, strengthen State government and improve its economy. The Governor's overall strategy has been to work in partnership with stakeholders to fix government and make it work better.

OMH has been engaged in a number of transformational initiatives launched by the Governor to achieve better results and use resources wisely. Among these are the Medicaid Redesign Team (MRT), the Spending and Government Efficiency (SAGE) Commission, and the Mandate Relief Team.

This is a time of enormous change, transition, uncertainty, and opportunity. And, with this in mind, we are using this year's annual planning process to take stock of where we are and lay a foundation for a new five-year plan in 2012.

This is also a time when listening is crucial. OMH wants to hear your thoughts and recommendations about the challenges and opportunities before us. Our objective is to work in concert with the statewide reform initiatives so that the individuals and families receiving health services funded by Medicaid are assured access to quality integrated behavioral and physical health treatment and supports that foster recovery and well-being.

We invite you to send us your ideas for consideration. Tell us how we can concentrate together on the people with the most need, ensure that essential mental health services are sustained and improved, and focus public accountability through OMH.

- As New York moves toward managing mental health and addiction treatment services and increasing integration of behavioral and physical health care, interim regional Behavioral Health Organizations (BHOs) will be established beginning in Fall 2011 to facilitate the transition to care management and to improve appropriateness and continuity of inpatient care. What suggestions do you have for this interim period?
- What should OMH and members of the Behavioral Health Subcommittee of the MRT take into account as it considers strategies for integrated, managed behavioral (mental health and substance abuse) services, for co-locating behavioral services with physical health care, for integrating peer supports, for guiding the development of health homes, and for other innovative approaches to improving the coordination of physical and behavioral health care?
- What do you suggest to ensure truly integrated care? That is, what recommendations do you have to bring physical and behavioral health care together to improve the health and quality of life for people engaged in care?

**Rochester – Rochester
Psychiatric Center, 1111
Elmwood Avenue, Second Floor,
Room G213-4**

This hearing will be held in the style of a town-hall meeting. While written testimony is welcome before or on the day of the hearing, the meeting will not focus on the reading of testimony. Rather it is intended to provide the Commissioner and those attending with the opportunity to have a dialogue about priorities and concerns.

Submit written testimony to OMH via the transformation mailbox at transformation@omh.ny.gov.

- What elements would you like to see included—or not included—as part of managed networks of behavioral care, as well as in health homes?
- What suggestions would you offer to move New York closer to evidence based, person-centered, family focused care based on the principles of recovery and resiliency?

[Visit the Department of Health website and learn about the goals and activities of the MRT Behavioral Health Reform Workgroup](#) 