



Mental Health Services Act (MHSAs) Components

Community Services and Supports (CSS)

Most of the money from the MHSAs provides treatment for individuals with serious mental illness, using a “whatever it takes” approach. Programs that support CSS build Full Service Partnerships to provide wraparound services to consumers. CSS programs also support housing developments for people with serious mental illness, since many are homeless.

Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI)

The goal of Prevention & Early Intervention programs is to prevent mental illness from becoming severe and disabling and to improve timely access to services for people who are underserved by the mental health system.

Innovation (INN)

Some MHSAs money goes to Innovation projects to try out new ideas for improving mental health services. These projects are called pilot programs and are tried out for a certain amount of time (e.g. 1-3 years), and are chosen because they show strong promise in making mental health services better.

Workforce Education and Training (WET)

Another area MHSAs funds is Workforce Education and Training (WET). The goal of WET is to make sure the mental health workforce reflects the diversity of the community. WET programs help train mental health professionals in cultural and language competency and best practices or allow mental health professionals further their education.

Capital Facilities and Technological Needs (CFTN)

The Capital Facilities and Technological Needs (CFTN) part of MHSAs helps in the development of buildings, community health centers, as well as technological resources (e.g. computers and data systems). The goal is to improve the locations where patients/clients go to receive mental health services and to make sure the systems are working in a timely and well-organized way.



Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Values

Wellness, Recovery, and Resilience

This value is about building services and service systems that helps people living with a mental illness or a mental health issue and their family members to live healthy and full lives. The MHSA funds programs that work on making mental health services better so that more people can receive and use services. MHSA programs contribute to mental well-being for everyone, regardless of age, race/ethnicity, gender, sexuality, language, economics, disability, and other social factors.

Cultural Competence

This value helps ensures that mental health services reflect the values, customs, and beliefs of the people being served. MHSA programs encourage consumers and people who support them to co-create a treatment plan with their provider that builds on the consumers’ strengths, goals, cultural background and social values.

Client and Family Driven Services

This value encourages consumers and family members to participate in all phases of developing strong mental health services and programs. This includes help in figuring out what works, what does not work, how to make services better, and then taking this information to create or improve new services and programs. This value understands that the people who need and use mental health services everyday are the ones who know best what is working well and how services can be improved.

Integrated Services

This value recognizes the need for health systems and departments to work together so that consumers will find it easier to get all of the services and supports they need under one roof.

Community Collaborations

This value tries to create more cooperation between mental health services and community-based organizations to make sure the overall health care system runs smoothly and people in the community are getting the services and support they need.

