

**Response:** Many aspects of the idea are also functions of the Peer Support and Navigation program, which already exists in the Plan.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission was impressed with the idea and thoughtfulness that went into the concept/comment. Although many elements of this recommendation already exist in the Plan, the Commission suggests this concept be processed with the Consumer Affairs Manager to see if, and where, it might fit into the Peer System Delivery as well as Peer Navigation opportunities through the Recovery Learning Center. The Commission recognizes that Peer Support Positions are already resourced in the Plan and that this is an implementation idea, therefore no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17 is required.

- (58) **Comment:** I recommend that staff in mental health hospitals, IMD, and the field or home-based service receive hazard pay.

**Response:** The Department does not provide for a Hazard Pay option and the recommendation is not directly related to the Plan.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17

- (59) **Comment:** A call center inclusive of consumer, family member, and parent partner peer support to answer questions about services, resources, linkage to clinics and programs.

**Response:** There are currently 800 phone numbers for the Consumer Affairs, Family Advocate, and Parent Support Programs which will continue to be funded in the Plan.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

- (60) **Comment:** Timed housing in an attempt to get people back on their feet - independence being the goal – not dependence on the system.

**Response:** The Department funds a variety of housing programs including permanent and supportive housing and housing subsidies. These opportunities will continue to be provided through the MHSA Plan and administered through the HHOPE program.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

(61) **Comment:** Help homeless MH clients.

**Response:** See response to comment 60 (above.)

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

(62) **Comment:** Transportation to and from clinics (i.e. monthly bus passes)

**Response:** See response to comments 44, 51, 54, and 55. As mentioned previously, some clinic locations do have the ability to offer bus passes and some limited van transports and comments will be shared with the Regional Administrators.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended these requests be shared with the Regional Administrators in each region to address the on-going problem of transportation. No additional change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17 was recommended.

(63) **Comment:** Thank you for letting me do this feedback survey.

**Response:** Positive comment acknowledged.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

(64) **Comment:** All regions need to work together. All counties need to work together so that all people have their fair share of help. And also engage disability clients. Let the force be with you always.

**Response:** Comment acknowledged, not directly related to the Annual Update.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

(65) **Comment:** None.

**Response:** Absence of comment acknowledged.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

(66) **Comment:** More places like Wellness City. More day programs and a Crisis Center in Indio.

**Response:** There are a total of four (4) Wellness City locations: Western Region, Mid-County, and two (2) in the Desert Region. They will continue to be funded through the Plan. Indio has an existing Crisis Stabilization Unit and another one is being funded in the Desert Region through the State Crisis Grants.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

(67) **Comment:** Check up on people who applied to the programs that have been cut. It may be less people, but there are still people who need/can benefit from those programs that were cut. Maybe recommend them to other programs.

**Response:** At this time there are no cuts to the existing programs planned.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission is not aware of program cuts outlined in the Plan and recommends no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17. However, the Commission acknowledges the comments and if there were cuts that impacted a consumer's treatment, it is the ethical obligation of the Department to provide them adequate referrals.

(68) **Comment:** Personally, I don't have access to a computer at home. So I don't like the 'psych.online' idea. Would have to go to public library for this. Maybe have a peer coach along side of 'psych.service'. FYI – Psychiatrist prescribe meds/psychologists do not prescribe and help socially.

**Response:** The initial suggestion of Telepsychology is not for home-based services. The intent is to provide these services in the clinics to expand their visit capacity.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17

- (69) **Comment:** Recommend better transportation available to MHSA/mentally ill. Better learning opportunities. More part time and full time work hours available.

**Response:** As mentioned in the responses to comments 44, 51, 54, 55 and 62, some clinic locations do have the ability to offer bus passes and some limited van transports and comments will be shared with the Regional Administrators.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended these requests be shared with the Regional Administrators in each region to address the on-going problem of transportation. No additional change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17 was recommended.

- (70) **Comment:** I think we should have some public outings or have some kind of day that we have a certain time span to get together and play some games or watch a movie so we can meet more people.

**Response:** Public outings socialization activities are offered through the Regional Wellness City programs. There are May is Mental Health Month events in all three regions and the Department has also sponsored some movie events through the Plan.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

- (71) **Comment:** Yes, would I be able to continue visit? Actually just need to finish my therapy with my therapist. I can drive to Banning to see her for therapy. We ran out of time. My therapy was cut short. Also I need to continue my peer support counseling/coach. Thank you for your time. I appreciate you and Indio mental health services.

**Response:** Comment acknowledged – not directly related to the Plan.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

(72) **Comment:** I look forward to participating in the WET Program with Goodwill Industries.

**Response:** Comment acknowledged – not directly related to the Plan

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

(73) **Comment:** To help with transportation. Knowing other resources available.

**Response:** As mentioned in previous responses, some clinic locations do have the ability to offer bus passes and some limited van transports and comments will be shared with the Regional Administrators.

See response to comments 29, 43 and 48. The Department has hired a Public Information Specialist (PIS) whose primary function is resource development and promotion. The PIS ensures that all resources, including websites, Guide to Services and other Resource guides, are updated and accurate and is developing social media avenues.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended these requests be shared with the Regional Administrators in each region to address the on-going problem of transportation. No additional change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17 was recommended.

(74) **Comment:** More time with peer counselor and more one on one.

**Response:** Comment acknowledged – not directly related to the Plan.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

(75) **Comment:** I know we need to keep RLC running here and every mental health facility in the US because it will help others, too!

**Response:** The RLC programs will continue to be funded through the Plan.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

(76) **Comment:** Expand RLC. Repaint/modernize Indio County Clinic. Modernize computers.

**Response:** This suggestion does not fit within the scope of the MHSA Capital Facilities Component requirements (expansion of RLC). The comments will be shared with Executive Management and the Regional Administrator to see if modifications can be made with non-MHSA funding.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

(77) **Comment:** Have a yearly Bar-B-Q at the park. Larger facility than Milestone I think is needed. Best if one for mental health clients, one for drug recovery clients. Better yet, monthly Bar-B-Q party.

**Response:** Comment acknowledged – not directly related to the Plan.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

**Behavioral Health Commission (BHC)**

**Public Hearing – May 4, 2016**

**ORAL COMMENTS**

(78) **Comment:** Basically what I'm just wondering is, I didn't hear anything regarding the homeless people that have mental health problems and I was just wondering how you guys would attempt to help solve that or at least bring it down a little bit. Bring that issue down to where there aren't as many homeless people out there with mental health issues. I believe that homeless issues need to be addressed.

**Response:** See responses to comments, 38, 42, 55, and 60. The Department funds a variety of housing programs including permanent and supportive housing and housing subsidies. These opportunities will continue to be provided through the MHSA Plan and administered through the HHOPE program.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

(79) **Comment:** I am aspiring to be a peer support in Mid-County and I am working with the Family Peer to Peer NAMI. I have developed an innovative idea for Riverside County Mental Health. The job is called: Peer Liaison. (complete description provided in comment 57)

**Response:** See comment 57. Many aspects of the idea already exist in the Plan.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission was impressed with the idea and thoughtfulness that went into the concept/comment, however recommended no change to the Plan Update. (Full response provide in comment 57).

(80) **Comment:** I wanted to talk a little bit about why I am here. I feel I was falling in between the cracks with mental health maybe. I don't have kids and I was having trouble with work. I've learned that I have PTSD but it wasn't through the military it was something from when I was growing up with family trauma. So in trying to find work, I keep going to

programs and they say do you have kids - but I don't have kids. I make a little bit of money from my parents, so I make too much for most programs around. I tried to do a lot of this myself and I go to the library and look at the books to figure out who you are and who I am. A lot of these books will ask you how you were as a kid and what did you like and I was just surviving. I am finding it difficult and I am very grateful for Recovery Innovations for a place to come who didn't put any standards on me and I am growing in that way. I just had to leave a company as working through the Department of Rehabilitation because I was hesitant in a lot of things and I don't think they understand the trauma I have. I asked not to be put in warehouse work and they just kept putting me in that. That's what I did all through my teens and into my twenties and at this age I am trying to get re-trained and at this age it's very difficult. And like I said, those are just my issues and I am working through them. So I thank a lot for Recovery Innovations for sticking with me. My point is I guess that PTSD can sometimes, when you are in those work programs, they are like "well here", - they just give you something and think you can just go do it and it's not so easy to do. Sometimes when I talk to them I feel like I'm not being heard. So that's really just all I wanted to talk about.

**Response:** Comment acknowledged – not directly related to the Plan.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

- (81) **Comment:** I am a client and I go to the Temecula Adult Mental Health Clinic there and Recovery Innovation classes. I have been there about three (3) years and have received a lot of help, outside support groups, and beneficial groups that have helped me come a long way and I've still got a way to go. Some of the things that I see is we need better staffing at the clinic and we are missing some people right now that are preventing us from having like DBT class and also a better way of getting transportation to get to the clinic. Like for me I have no income so I can't afford to ride the bus and I have to rely on my parents but I can't always get them to get me there and that's pretty much all I have to say.

**Response:** See comments 44, 51, 54, 55, 62, and 69 regarding transportation. Recruitment for qualified staff is an on-going process within the Department.



**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17

- (82) **Comment:** I am a Peer Support Specialist and I took Peer Support Training and I went through RI training. I've been with the program Jefferson Wellness, I'm sure you're all aware of that, for quite a long time and I've also been working with RI and people from RI have pretty much had their eye on me for a long time. I am every impressed with what is going on with RI and what that company stands for and what their employees are doing and how they are moving forward. I think it needs to be developed even more and I think there should be a lot more of that going on. To me I know it is a small part of the mental health system because they are not really working for the county and they are working with the county. I think there should be a lot more of that part of the program in development - I really do. I think that should be spreading all over – not just in Riverside but I'm talking about all over California and everywhere. They have done a lot for me and changed my life. My life was down and out and I was actually suicidal when I came to them. I didn't have any direction and I didn't have any hope in my life; my life was falling apart. And when I got there things changed. I mean its like 'The Place'; I think they should open a place like 'The Place' which is a very good program. They had me housed there and they had people there on staff that were there all the time to take care of me and make sure I wasn't having a hard day and wasn't going to be able handled it by myself. So these are programs right here that I really think need to be integrated because I was homeless, like I said, and that place was my home. And it turned into a home with people who cared, people that showed up every day, suited up to let me know "hey you know life is not going to be like this forever and you have plenty of choices and we're here to help you with those". So I really think they should open a lot more homeless shelters and places like that in California for these people who are homeless and suffer with mental health issues. And that's pretty much all I have to say. Thank you.

**Response:** Funding for The Place and The Path housing programs and Recovery Innovations International (RII) initiatives will continue through FY16/17 as presented in the Plan. RII is not only an international organization but offers services across the state and the nation.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17

- (83) **Comment:** I come from Perris, RI you know and I like it there because I get out of my house and I listen. But I like it there and it helps me to learn more. I like here because I learn more about you guys and hear more because I came to see about income and all the stuff like that. And I like it and its okay for me. And sometimes I get nervous talking but I like coming here.

**Response:** Positive comment acknowledged.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

- (84) **Comment:** I go to Recovery Innovations in Perris and I used to go to the one in Temecula too. And I really appreciate what those people in those classes are doing with me because I have schizophrenia. I was rejected from the Marine Corps because I wanted to be a Chaplin there and the thing is that I don't care if I'm not in the military any more at all. I appreciate what they are doing with me. I always used to talk corrupt things to people and used to talk about stuff that's not pleasant. When I went to Recovery Innovations two years ago I learned to speak sound things to people because every time I talked corrupt things people used to tell me to go away. I went to this program a long time ago and they worked on me and they did feedback therapy on my brain and they made me listen to classical music because I have a bad filtering system and it makes me not get understood by people of the opposite gender of me. The thing is, I don't let that bug me anymore even though it didn't work on me when I went to that program because it is very hard to afford that. My dad just passed away this past January; he died of an infarction of the brain. And I promised my dad before he died that I would not talk bad stuff anymore to people. I really appreciate what Recovery Innovations is doing for me and helping me get my life together. I always call It'sUp2Us when I have corrupt thoughts in my mind like saying I want to commit suicide or get into fights with people. I hope in the future I will not use my skills in corrupt ways and only use it to use it to glorify my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**Response:** Positive comment acknowledged.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17

- (85) **Comment:** I go to RI International and have been volunteering for 8 years and if it wasn't for that program I would be out in the street. I have been taking my meds and I will never get off them. There ain't no where else to go because I don't like to stay home because I don't like to stay in bed that is where I go because I like to volunteer. I like to do what I do.

**Response:** Positive comment acknowledged.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

- (86) **Comment:** I just want to show my appreciation to just say how much mental health has done for me when I got the courage and strength to ask for help. Getting out of prison for the fifth time at 50 and was starting to accept that that's just the way it was going to be. To be honest when I did reach out and they said mental health I backed up and said, "Wait a minute I'm not talking about that kind of help". But now that I learned more information about what mental health is about - somebody to talk to, somebody to help me, instead of being a survivor - help me to live. All the conditions I had and behaviors of the lifestyle that I lived not really living but expecting to die any day because that's where I come from. There's been a lot of death in my family - lot of things, of overdoes, and things like that. But since I've been there, I found hope and see the light at the end of the tunnel, and I see opportunity, I feel good about myself. They told me about this meeting and I was anxious to get here because I want to give what I've been given back. I'm looking at the RI meetings too and am going to start in June and will go to the orientation so I can learn more because I can only give what I've got and what I know about. I'm not over here trying to be smart or this and that. I'm not dumb person but I don't know how to live a productive life. I've had good jobs, I've had this, I've had that, but I don't keep them because I'm insane; I do the same things over and over and expecting different result. I know that's why I cried out for help because I know I can do

good for so long but when that merry go round came around again I would end up back in prison if I was lucky and not dead. I'm just very grateful today and you know just like getting up here and speaking, how we get nervous and we don't know, but if we step out; because if we stay in our comfort zone we're not going to grow. I just want to engulf all this information so I can give back to those who have been where I've been. I have to go to a service tomorrow because someone committed suicide - one of my friends. Last year another one of my friends committed suicide and that hurts me deeply because I don't know what I could have done more for them and that could be a trigger for me to go back to my old ways. But if I get more of an understanding and knowledge of behaviors and different people's behaviors and just loving them where they are at; you know that's what I'm all about. I've always been a caring person but I didn't know how to that. I know how to give you, and I'm just going to keep it real, a double up sac, or the life I lived, or help you out with this or that, a gun or something, thinking that I was helping you but I didn't know how to help myself. So what mental health has given me is a life - my life back; and being at 50 I guess I have a purpose and death ain't one of them you know what I'm saying at least not for now. So I would just like to say thank you and show my appreciation and that's why I came to this meeting so I don't just talk about it - I want to be about it. And the more information I get, the more I can reach out to the people who are where I've been. You know people with different depths and life and maybe this is just so I can reach those people in those depths now where somebody else couldn't reach them. And that's where my heart is at today; and I just would like to thank mental health and my God for giving me the courage and the strength to ask for help.

**Response:** Positive comment acknowledged.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

- (87) **Comment:** I'm from RI and I wasn't planning on commenting but, oh my gosh, hearing from so many people I just really feel the need to say thank you for sharing your stories and your comments with folks and thank you all on the board for so much time I know that you all have put into creating this plan and really making a difference a permanent

difference in the lives of all those that we serve throughout all the agencies that make up all different service providers. So I just want to say thank you to all of you for that and to all of you for sharing and really for allowing us to be a part of that, so thanks.

**Response:** Positive comment acknowledged.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

- (88) **Comment:** I go to RI international in Perris and first I want to thank God because now for the first time they sat me down, they ran me through, cuz I had nothing else to do at the house. And I am one of those people that don't want to sit at the home - can't do that. I have been going there ever since and have got my life straight and I feel like I owe it to them - so there it is - thank you.

**Response:** Positive comment acknowledged.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

- (89) **Comment:** I am very grateful to the mental health system it has brought me a long way but I am falling through the cracks and falling short on finding a job. I only have one offense and it has just really just brought me way down and I just want to know if there is any way that you can address that or help people in that area?

**Response:** It was recommended that this individual contact the Family Advocate Program at 800-330-4522 to inquire about Expungement programs and assistance in that area.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17

- (90) **Comment:** I have been diagnosed with autism and last year I graduated from Peer Employment Training and I've been a volunteer here at the mental health and Wellness City and I also go to NAMI programs. Whatever organization I find, I go and do. We need to get programs and we need transportation to everywhere we go and we need

transportation from here to there. We need to keep RLC going in Riverside and Indio and we need to open an RLC in the Mid-County because that's where they need it the most; and that way they have all three. I represent Indio with Riverside at the expo in Riverside and Perris and represent Indio in Riverside at the RLC booth. I'm Treasurer at Wellness City. Wherever there is a need in the community - I see a need and I meet it immediately because that's what it's all about. They need more services in San Bernardino County, too because San Bernardino County are the ones that are suffering right now. Riverside County can work with San Bernardino County and expand and that way everyone gets their fair share of helping people like me - autism, cerebral palsy, down syndrome, mental illness, depression any kind of mental illness needs help - all of it needs help - including all of those people who don't even have that need. We got to get out there and we got to help everybody in need and we got to go out there and show them what we're made of. Thank you for letting me share and let the force be with you guys always.

**Response:** Funding for the RLC will continue in FY16/17 as stated in the Plan. See comments 44, 51, 54, 55, 62, and 69 for response to transportation issues.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

- (91) **Comment:** I was at Recovery Learning Center and its now been two years since I've been out. I kind of wanted to go back to the Recovery Learning Center because I don't just want to sit around without having people to talk to or help me out. I got tired of watching TV, sitting on the couch, that just wasn't me and I thought "What am I gonna do?" you know what I mean. I am 55 years old and no job and a friend of mine called me and said he heard of a ranch for men and we had a little conversation and one thing led to another now I have a volunteer job and am working hard at it. I don't get paid except for gas and mileage but it's alright because this volunteer job might turn into something better some day.

**Response:** Positive comment acknowledged.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

- (92) **Comment:** I have been diagnosed with major depressive disorder and I have been coming here for about 5 months now and I love it. I graduated from WRAP class and COR class and right now I'm in my art class and I would just like to say that I suppose it is going to end after our art show in like a week or so but I would just like it to keep going because it is really helping me get through life and it is such a sense of release for me.

**Response:** The RLC will continue to be funded in FY16/17. Positive comment acknowledged.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

- (93) **Comment:** I was a broker and CPA before and didn't know I was bipolar; I was rock and rolling all the time. I was from the Philippines and when I came here and was very busy all the time and I didn't know I had an ailment and my sister was a nurse and told me to see a psychiatrist. It was very late in my life that I found out I was bipolar. I had an accident, too; I smashed my head on the floor so that was it. So I am on SSI now on disability and it is a very shock for me that I am not used to being busy. I would like to see some more programs and part time work available out there for people like me for who have mental illness that can actually do some work out there - even on a part time basis because we're not supposed to work more than 20 hours a week. So I would like to see some part time jobs available out there either in the office, accounting work, or marketing jobs. But we would love to see that. I have been here for 6 months now and I love all the programs that have been open to us and all the classes. And, the Recovery Innovations group over there - they are so lovely and so accommodating and so sweet and I just love it over there - as well as all the recovery coaches we have here.

**Response:** Recommendation will be shared with the Consumer Affairs Manager and Human Resources.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission requested that the Department explore employment opportunities including part time with both

Consumer Affairs and Human Resources. Peer positions are currently funded through the Plan so no additional change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17 is recommended.

- (94) **Comment:** I have had post traumatic stress disorder for 16 years since 2000 and on the other side I've been seeing a psychiatrist and am on medication. My medications have decreased to where I only take Zoloft. Before I was on heavy heavy medication but actually, my psychiatrist says I am doing really good and am able to go through the RLC and I've taken the WRAP class, the Facing Up Class, and art works as well. My Recovery Coach has been helping me find an apartment, so my name has been all over the valley for about two years and have been looking for an apartment, but haven't had success in that. But it's been a tremendous help - the Recovery Learning Center. My coach is really good at helping us and she is also a peer support group coach and we meet every Monday. I did apply for PET to work here at Indio mental health in the future and didn't get accepted to training because- I think it was a mistake - and they said I didn't live in the Riverside County and I lived too far so I don't know what that was all about. But I have been coming here since 2000 and I thought I didn't belong here because I thought I wasn't crazy but I soon found out that I was a little crazy because when you go through childhood trauma – you know. Thank you for letting me share.

**Response:** The Department will follow up with RII regarding PET for this individual.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission appreciates the comments and requests that the Department contact RII and facilitate this individual being considered for Peer Employment Training. No change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17 was recommended.

- (95) **Comment:** My comments don't have to do with the 3-Year Plan can I still say something or do I have to wait? I have been coming here for a year and I just want to say that I want the county to improve about who they let in because they didn't want to let me in when I first came in. I came in for anxiety that was my main concern and they told me no, we don't treat anxiety we treat severe depression, bi-polar disorder, PTSD and schizophrenia and I'm thinking, "Well, everything but anxiety?". So they tell me I need to go to my doctor, so I go to my doctor, and my doctor tells me you've got to go to



mental health and I'm like "Oh my gosh." And even when I came and they kept rejecting me and I told them about having suicidal thoughts - but that I wasn't going to act on it - so they still didn't take me. But they said they could only keep me or let me stay at least to go to class or something. I was suicidal but I still wasn't allowed in the clinic and I was like "What do I do now?" This was I guess somewhat of a hope and I wonder how many more people do they turn away that need to be here because I have benefited from this.

**Response:** Comment acknowledged – not directly related to the Plan.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

- (96) **Comment:** I have been coming to this clinic the since the early 90s and I was diagnosed with bipolar disorder and I have been taking medication for several years and been in several board and care homes and *other* homes and also I think this clinic is a really good clinic. I am looking forward to finding a job or volunteering somewhere through the new WET program. I am getting older now - in my young years I wasted a lot of my young years just goofing around and stuff. I am happy now because I feel clean and sober, don't mess around with drugs and alcohol, and I thank all of you for letting me share.

**Response:** Positive comment acknowledged.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

- (97) **Comment:** I am in the Recovery Learning Center and been coming here for a little over a year and I transition here from the Banning Clinic where I was in their services for about 8 years. That was one of the hardest things I had to do to leave my family. And now the Recovery Center is part of my environment and my environment over there wasn't too well. I was worried about everybody else but me. But with the peer supports that helped talk me through it, this was the best decision I ever made. I'm in the Recovery Learning Center and the peer supports over there are very terrific. When I first moved over here I was homeless for 3 months and they helped me find a residence and the groups that we have are very educational and help me to emotionally grow and help

empower myself to advocate for myself and I am real thankful for that. And if anything we should get more classes.

**Response:** Positive comment acknowledged.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

- (98) **Comment:** I've been living with depression and other personal issues. I suggest a monthly barbecue party. Thank you!

**Response:** Comment acknowledged – not directly related to the Plan.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

- (99) **Comment:** For the Art Show, I put in three art pieces and two creative writings.

**Response:** Comment acknowledged – not directly related to the Plan.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

- (100) **Comment:** I just wanted to say that my Recovery Coach, she kept pumping positive thoughts into my head and I really really love the Recovery Learning Center it does help and it does work and we need it. I have depression and I hear voices but as long as I'm busy they don't bother me so when I'm not busy it's not right - gonna be in trouble. This clinic and Recovery Learning Center has helped me a lot. Thank you.

**Response:** Positive comment acknowledged.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

- (101) **Comment:** Hello and no matter what and all the Recovery Coaches (listed names) put positive things into my head and each one helped me and anybody I could find in this clinic to help me I would go to them. And no matter what organization I go to, everybody

needs help, any disability, any age, and everybody needs their fair share and thank you all for all your support and may your force be with you guys always once again.

**Response:** Positive comment acknowledged.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Behavioral Health Commission recommended no change to the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17.

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