

**National Association of State Mental
Health Program Directors' Winter 2005
Commissioners Meeting**

**Transformation in
Partnership with the
Substance Abuse System**

**Presented by
Lewis E. Gallant, Ph.D.
Executive Director
NASADAD**

Cross-walking the Institute of Medicine on the health care Quality Chasm Report with the goals and the recommendations from the President's New Freedom Commission on Transforming Mental Health.

- Goals have applicability for substance abuse
- Findings of New Freedom Commission ring true for substance abuse prevention and treatment

Americans Understand that Substance Abuse is Essential to Overall Health

- Access is critical
- Quality is essential
- Accountability is paramount
- Cultural competency without compromise
- Results without question

Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment is consumer and Family Driven

- An area to learn
- Conflicts with public safety
- Must be individualized not slot driven
- Must have flexibility
- Must recognize readiness for change
- Must promote natural and other supports
- Ensures access to:
 - Primary health care
 - Mental Health care
 - Adequate and affordable housing
 - Educational opportunities
 - Employment opportunities
 - The assurance of not being unjustly incarcerated

Partnering and/or Collaborating with Health Resource Services Administration

- Leadership from SAMHSA to Assist HRSA with its Mental Health and Substance use Disorders Mission.
- Provide oversight for Standards of Care
- Assist with Workforce Development
- Allow SAMHSA to Purchase On-site MH/SA Services

Disparities in Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment are Eliminated

- Equal access to:
 - Insurance coverage
 - Quality care regardless of access point
 - Culturally appropriate Care
 - Care regardless of geographic location

Early Substance abuse/dependence Screening, Assessment, and Referral to Services Are Common Practice (Prevention)

- In primary health care
- Mental health care
- Schools
- Local and regional jails
- Public Welfare
- Housing
- Employment

Excellent Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Services Are Delivered and Research is Accelerated

- Continued use and development of evidence based care
- Maintenance of a competent workforce
- Focus on Continuous Quality Improvement
- Promote the development and use of consumer driven facilities and programs

Technology Is Used to Access Substance abuse Prevention and Treatment Services and Information

- Expedite the implementation of an electronic health record
- Transfer of open domain software between States
- Use common data platforms
- Maintain State developed public domain software and hardware configurations in centralized repository
- Promote the use of State-to-state technical assistance

Transforming mental health through a focus on recovery

- Using the lessons learned by the substance abuse field's use of the recovery concept.
- Developing a “universal” definition of recovery that meets the needs of both disciplines
- Ensure that there exists a workforce that is “dual disorder” capable.

Actualize the NASMHPD/NASADAD's Co-occurring Framework

- Provide leadership for its use as an organizing tool by the nation's mental health and substance use disorder system's of care
- Establish “benchmarks” that can help measure the progress of implementation across the country
- Recommend resource and technical assistance needs to SAMHSA

SAMHSA Should Use NASMHPD/NASADAD for Technology/Knowledge Transfer

- Evidenced Based Practices
 - Stigma
 - Suicide
 - PTSD and Trauma
- National Data Strategy
- Link DATA Resources
- Workforce Development
- Other Mutually Agreed Upon System Change