



Community Mental Health  
Services Block Grant:  
FY 2009-2011 Application  
Instructions and Guidance



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# Process

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- CMHS develops new draft Application Instructions and Guidance
- Federal Register Notice provides 60-day comment period
- CMHS reviews comments, revises draft if needed, and submits to OMB
- Revised Federal Register Notice provides 30-day comment period
- Following OMB approval, CMHS distributes MHBG Application Instructions and Guidance to the States

# Objectives

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- Ensure continued Federal support for the Mental Health Block Grant
- Reduce the amount of time and resources that States must invest in preparing the application and Implementation Report
- Collect data needed to demonstrate outcomes for the Mental Health Block Grant and other SAMHSA programs
- Encourage States to collect and analyze data to inform policy and planning

# State Working Group

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## ***Members***

- Molly Brooms (AL)
- Liz Gitter (OH)
- Jim Harvey (NE)
- John Hudgens (OK)
- Carol Kardos (TN)
- Deb Kupfer
- Stacy Rudin (MD)
- Joyce Soularie (AL)
- Alice Thomas (NV)

## ***Ex-Officio Members***

- Ted Lutterman (NRI)
- Elizabeth Prewitt (NASMHPD)
- Judy Stange (NAMHPAC)

## ***Others***

- John Morrow (CMHS)
- Deborah Baldwin (CMHS)
- Other CMHS Staff
- Jenifer Urff and Susan Hills (AHP)

# Changes Reflected in FY2009-2011 Application Guidance and Instructions

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- Reduced from 20 to 6 the number of transformation categories for which expenditure data is requested
  - Categories reflect the six goals of the New Freedom Commission report
  - Each State determines where specific activities fit within the categories
  - States report only on MHBG expenditures
  - States may indicate that they are providing an estimate only

# Table C. MHBG Funding for Transformation Activities

	Column 1	Column 2	
	Is MHBG funding used to support this goal? If yes, please check.	If yes, please provide the <i>actual</i> or <i>estimated</i> amount of MHBG funding that will be used to support this transformation goal in FY2009.	
		Actual	Estimated
<b>GOAL 1:</b> Americans Understand that Mental Health Is Essential to Overall Health			
<b>GOAL 2:</b> Mental Health Care is Consumer and Family Driven			
<b>GOAL 3:</b> Disparities in Mental Health Services are Eliminated			
<b>GOAL 4:</b> Early Mental Health Screening, Assessment, and Referral to Services are Common Practice			
<b>GOAL 5:</b> Excellent Mental Health Care Is Delivered and Research Is Accelerated			
<b>GOAL 6:</b> Technology Is Used to Access Mental Health Care and Information			
<b>Total MHBG Funds</b>	N/A		

# Changes Reflected in FY2009-2011 Application Guidance and Instructions

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## Other changes to transformation reporting:

- Eliminating the requirement that transformation activities be tracked within the 5 Mental Health Block Grant criteria
- Consolidating requests for narrative into a single section
- Eliminating redundancy by allowing States to refer to other sections

# Changes Reflected in FY2009-2011 Application Guidance and Instructions

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- Eliminating the requirement that States complete URS Table 18 (adults with schizophrenia receiving new generation medications during the year)
- Eliminating the requirement that States complete a State-Level Reporting Capacity Checklist
- Providing more specific guidance regarding NOMS
- Reorganizing and consolidating sections to improve readability and clarity

# Other Issues Identified by the Working Group

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- Submission dates for the application and Implementation Report
- Ensuring consistency between the application and WebBGAS
- Ongoing communication with CMHS regarding goals of the Mental Health Block Grant, requirements, and challenges

# SAMHSA Reauthorization

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- CMHS will contact States with additional guidance, if needed
- If significant changes are made affecting application requirements or data collection, CMHS will revise application guidance and re-submit for public comment
- CMHS will make every effort to permit States submitting multi-year plans to re-submit only information needed to address changes

# Reminder

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- Federal Register comments requested by February 29
- Federal Register comments must be submitted by March 29
- States will have a second opportunity to respond to any revisions (30-day Federal Register notice anticipated by April 30)
- Following OMB approval, final Mental Health Block Grant Application Instructions and Guidance will be distributed