

**Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS)
Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS)**

Implementation of Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) in Oregon

Revised June 6, 2005

In 2003 the Oregon Legislature Assembly passed SB 267 into law. The ORS is 181.637 sections 3-10.

The Legislation applies to five agencies:

- Department of Corrections
- Oregon Youth Authority
- DHS, OMHAS
- Criminal Justice Commission
- Commission on Children and Families

The five agencies must have their public funds spent on evidence based practices. They must have 25% in 2005; 50% in 2007; and, 75% in 2009 and thereafter.

SB 267 defines EBP, “*Evidence-based program*” means a program that: (a) *Incorporates significant and relevant practices based on scientifically based research; and (b) Is cost effective.*”

OMHAS implementation:

- OMHAS is establishing a definition of EBP with stakeholder input. The definition is currently being updated to be more inclusive with EBPs in prevention and EBPs accepted by federal agencies.
- There is an evidence continuum which includes six levels ranging from multiple randomized studies in controlled and usual care settings to no evidence that supports the efficacy or effectiveness of the practice. The first three levels are defined as evidence-based practices meeting the OMHAS standard as reported to the legislature.
- OMHAS has established a project plan that is implemented by an internal steering committee to promote the adoption of EBPs. It includes plans to develop and provide:
 - Incentives for system change and reduction of barriers
 - Administrative rule and contract actions

- Technical assistance and training
 - Plans for defining and measuring outcomes
 - Communication strategies (internal & external)
- OMHAS has an ongoing, internal workgroup to review practices based on the operational definition of EBPs. They have identified over 40 practices as meeting the standard. The list is on the OMHAS website <http://www.dhs.state.or.us/mentalhealth/ebp/main.html> . OMHAS will ask providers to send in EBPs for review this summer. Once the internal workgroup have reviewed an EBP then external people will review the EBP. The status of EBPs will be posted on the OMHAS website.
- There are three OMHAS stakeholder workgroups related to implementation:
- Selection and Verification Workgroup. This workgroup has met three times and will be meeting on July 13th. The current list of approved EBPs is on the OMHAS website. In June OMHAS expects to start soliciting and accepting applications for EBPs from providers. The draft application form will be available on the web by June 30, 2005.
 - Adoption and Implementation Workgroup. This group has met seven times and the minutes are posted on the web. Bob Miller chairs and the group oversees the development of technical assistance efforts, rules and contracts. The next meeting is July 12th. The current Technical Assistance pilot project will be completed June 29th and the summary will on the OMHAS website. Contact Shawn Clark at 503-945-9720 for details.
 - Outcomes and Cost Benefit Workgroup. This group has met five times and the next meeting is June 29th. Jon Collins chairs and the group will advise OMHAS on defining and measuring outcomes.

If you are interested in serving on any workgroup, call Shawn Clark at 503-945-9720. The minutes and members of all the groups are on the OMHAS website.

Current Projects:

- OMHAS recently completed a survey of the counties asking for an estimate of the amount of public money spent on the current provisional list of EBPs. **Results of the survey will be published soon.** Call Jon Collins at 503-945-6429 for details.
- The Northwest Frontier Addition Technology Transfer Center (NFATTC) is providing a pilot training in systems change to OMHAS staff, others and provider agencies to assist in EBP selection and implementation. If there is interest this project will be continued. Call Shawn Clark if you are interested or have questions.

For further information visit the Oregon DHS website at:
<http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/mentalhealth/ebp/main.shtml>

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