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| <p style="text-align: center;">Office of Mental Health & Addiction Services Measuring Fidelity 2/16/06</p> |
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The Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS) will work with community partners to ensure that the adoption of evidence-based practices by the service delivery system includes the use of methods to measure fidelity to the practices or programs implemented. There are a number of strategies the office may employ in this work. These strategies are outlined below.

Technical Assistance Strategies

- The office will offer technical assistance to selected providers on the theory and practice of using fidelity instruments to measure the effectiveness of evidence-based practice (EBP) implementation. This will involve assisting providers in the identification and selection of fidelity measures or instruments, as well as guidance using these scales to maintain EBP adherence.
- The office will meet with quality assurance teams of providers, community mental health programs, mental health organizations, and fully capitated health plans to coordinate strategies for ensuring system-wide use of fidelity measurement methods.
- The office will use the OMHAS Web site to disseminate research and information regarding fidelity measurement tools or methods.
- The office will serve as a clearinghouse and coordination center to assist providers in developing technical assistance exchanges, enabling providers to assist each other by sharing information, experience, and technical expertise.

Targeted Fidelity Monitoring

- The office will consider contracting with professional review organizations to conduct fidelity review activities for some types of services.
- As requested by providers and as part of pilot projects, the office will assign staff from the EBP Unit to conduct fidelity monitoring in the field using fidelity scales specific to the practices being reviewed. The monitoring will focus on practices with broad application across the service delivery system.

Measuring Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement Capacity

- The office will use onsite reviews to place additional emphasis in reviewing the effectiveness of the provider's quality assurance and clinical supervision processes. These processes are among the most important for ensuring the effectiveness of EBP implementation and fidelity monitoring.
- The office will use annual reports and other data submitted by providers as additional data elements in assessing the fidelity of EBP implementation.