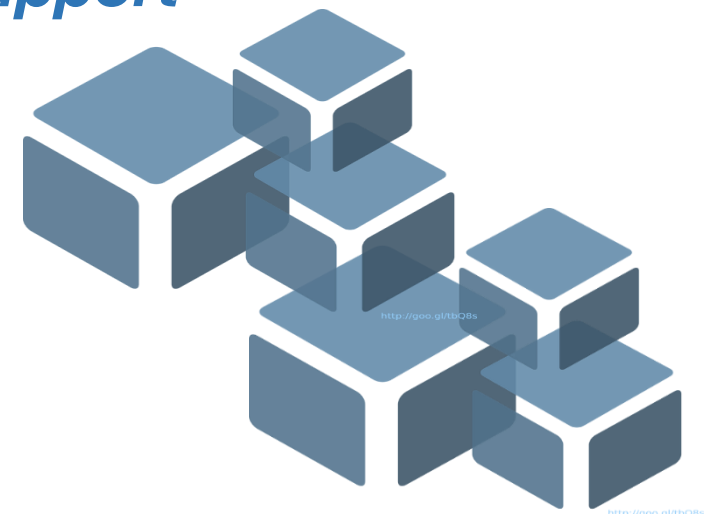


RECAP Session 1

ADVOCACY OPPORTUNITIES

NCMHA Learning Collaborative
*How SAMHSA Block Grants Can Support
Older Behavioral Health*

Session 2
October 26, 2023



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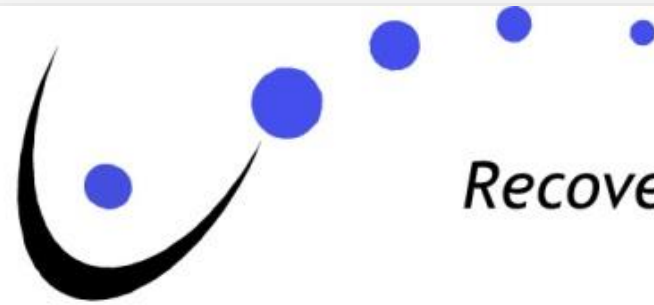
Vice Chair

**National Coalition on
Mental Health and Aging**

www.ncmha.org

Chair

**Oklahoma Behavioral
Health Forum on Aging**



Recovery has no age limit.

OMHAC

OKLAHOMA MENTAL HEALTH & AGING COALITION



NCMHA

National Coalition on Mental Health & Aging

SAMHSA BLOCK GRANTS



Recap

- **Funds available to all States to provide community mental health services**
- **Noncompetitive, formula grant**
- **The plan/application must be reviewed by the Planning Council**
- **The state must submit comments/recommendations from the Council – whether acted on or not**

PLANNING AND ADVISORY COUNCILS



Recap



- Required under federal law as a requirement of receiving Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG) funding from SAMHSA
- Many states have formed integrated Councils, to include SAMHSA's Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services Block Grant (SUPTRS BG) funding
- State differences; diverse membership; bylaws
- Consult SAMHSA Technical Assistance – **STATE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCILS, An Introductory Manual, April 2023**

Purpose



SAMHSA BLOCK GRANTS

- Flexibility in use of funds for both new/unique programs or supplement current programs
- Prevention, treatment, recovery support services
- Use of funds restricted – may not use for
 - Inpatient services for mental health
 - Purchase, improve land or facilities
 - Purchase medical equipment
 - Provide financial assistance to entities other than public or nonprofit



Purpose



PLANNING AND ADVISORY COUNCILS

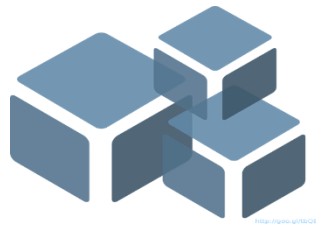
Under federal law, the planning councils have three primary duties

- To **review** the state's MHBG application and report and **make recommendations** to the agency receiving the grant
 - may be a mental health agency or behavioral health agency also having responsibility for substance use disorder (SUD) prevention and treatment
- To serve as **advocates** for people with mental illness, including adults with serious mental illness (SMI) and children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbance (SED)
- To **monitor, review, and evaluate** the adequacy of mental health services in the state

Criterion 4:
**Targeted Services to Rural
and Homeless Populations
and to Older Adults**

**Provides outreach to and services
for individuals who experience
homelessness; community-based
services to individuals in rural
areas; and community-based
services to older adults**





ADVOCACY OPPORTUNITIES



- **Attend meetings**
- **Review qualifications - If you qualify, request consideration as a Council member**
- **Develop contacts – Council Chair - officers, Agency Liaison**
- **Invite others in your network**
- **Every meeting has “public comment” – advocate for inclusion of older adults as an underserved population**

- **When info/programs/strategies are presented, inquire if they include older adults**
- **Develop your ask/recommendation - what can be accomplished in your state, available/needed resources, strategies**
- **Additional advocacy**
 - **MHBG is posted for public comment – involve your network in sending comments/recommendations about the behavioral health disparities for older people**



QuestionTime





www.ncmha.org



<http://goo.gl/tbQ8s>

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