

CALIFORNIA MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

OCTOBER 2012

“Arbitrary” Planks

- Support any proposal that embodies the principles of the *Mental Health Master Plan*.
- Support any proposal that addresses the human resources problem in the public mental health system with specific emphasis on increasing cultural diversity and promoting the employment of consumers and family members.
- Support any proposal that augments mental health funding, consistent with the principles of least restrictive care and adequate access.
- Support mental health insurance parity.
- Support legislation that ensures quality mental health services in health care reform
- ~~Support expanding innovative housing and employment options for persons with mental disabilities.~~ **Support expanding supportive affordable housing.**
- **Support expanding employment options for people with psychiatric disabilities.**
- Support any proposal to lower costs by eliminating duplicative, unnecessary, or ineffective regulatory or licensing mechanisms of programs or facilities.
- Support any initiatives that reduce or eliminate the use of seclusion and restraint
- Oppose all bills related to “NIMBYism” and restrictions on housing and siting facilities for providing mental health services.
- ~~Oppose any proposal that reduces benefits or entitlements for mental health clients.~~ **Support initiatives that provide comprehensive health care and oppose any elimination of health benefits for low income beneficiaries.**
- Oppose any legislation that adversely affects the Mental Health Services Act.

Discretionary Planks (Require Deliberation & Discussion)

- *Support any proposal that advocates for blended funding for programs serving clients with a dual diagnosis of mental illness and substance abuse.*
- *Support any proposal that advocates for providing more services in the criminal and juvenile justice systems for persons with serious mental illnesses or children, adolescents, and transition-aged youth with serious emotional disturbances, including clients with dual diagnoses.*
- *Remain neutral or watch all legislation related to expanding the scope of professional licensure except when it affects quality of care.*