

# Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force

The Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force is the voice of the community on issues related to the quality and responsiveness of mental health and substance abuse services.

## MHTF 3-YEAR PLAN



### Policy Analysis and Advocacy

The Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force will use careful research and analysis to aggressively advocate for programs and policies that will improve mental health and substance abuse services in Milwaukee County.

#### The MHTF will:

1. Conduct analyses of local and state annual/biennial budgets to identify areas of concern and develop advocacy strategies to advance the community's best interests.
2. Develop position papers on critical issues pertaining to the community's access to the full continuum of integrated mental health and substance abuse services.
3. Support other coalitions and initiatives, including MC3, that are working to improve the allocation of resources to and the effective implementation of mental health and substance abuse services for people in Milwaukee County.



### Community Access

The Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force will focus its efforts on strategies that will expand access to the full continuum of integrated mental health and substance abuse services to advance recovery and independence for all populations in Milwaukee County.

#### The MHTF will:

1. Support the ongoing development and improvement of an integrated, community-based mental health and substance abuse prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery services system that is accessible and effective for everyone, including youth and adults.
2. Work to improve the quality and effectiveness of crisis services and develop effective linkages between crisis services and community treatment resources with the goal of reducing the need for crisis services over the long-term.
3. Support the efforts of the Community Justice Council to increase diversion and treatment for people affected by mental illness who become involved in the criminal justice system.
4. Support the efforts of other community initiatives that address areas of concern for the MHTF including stigma reduction, community awareness, education and employment, policy advocacy and resource development.



### Coalition Growth

The Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force will engage all parts of the Milwaukee community in a sustained, meaningful way at all levels of Task Force operation including membership, working groups, special initiatives and governance.

#### The MHTF will:

1. Expand membership to reflect the great diversity of the Milwaukee community especially those directly affected by quality and accessibility of mental health and substance abuse services.
2. Strengthen the engagement and contribution of all MHTF members in efforts to improve the community mental health and substance abuse services system.
3. Improve communication and information-sharing between policy-makers and service providers.

