Introductions by Kathy Kipp, MHSA Coordinator. This is the first meeting of the Capital & IT part of the Mental Health Services Act. Each member introduced themselves.

Kristen Garden, Meeting Facilitator. This was the first meeting of this group. The goal of the meeting was to become familiar with the State Guidelines for the use of the MHSA Capital & IT funds and to get information of the group especially for the IT part. Once ideas and priorities are set they will meet and submit the plan for approval by the end of the year to the state.

Kathy Kipp. She gave an overview of the MHSA IT and Capital to get people on the process. As of July 1st 2008 the MHSA Funding allocated 20% of the CSS funding for Prudent Reserve, Capital Facilities, Technological needs, and Education and Training. Counties decide in what area they want to split that money.

The state requires that every county should create a plan to put away half of their CSS money for prudent reserve. It is like a savings account for times of economic downturn. They have to get permission from the state to use that money.

CMHS will focus on the IT part at this time because their actual system InSyst is very old. Echo (the vendor) has a upgraded program that fulfills the state reporting requirements.

Counties will decide how much money goes to IT and how much to Capital Facilities. Counties will have to develop a Component Proposal which is the overview of how the county plans to spend its Capital & IT money and then the Project Proposal is specific to each project.

The two technology goals are Client and Family Empowerment and Modernized and Transform Information Systems.

Marin County’s planning estimate $1,893,900 and has 10 years to spend it.

Kristen Gardner. Right now the County wants to focus on IT needs. Capital planning will come at a later date. There are two priorities, one is to upgrade the billing system (Insyst program) and the second priority is to continue developing the Personal Health Record (PHR) which is a MHSA requirement, which is called Clinicians Gateway. The cost of those two projects could be $1.4 million of the $1.9.

Kristen provided instructions for today’s brainstorming session. Listed below are the ideas that were generated at the meeting.
Capital Considerations:
1. Option to purchase buildings for MHSA funded, CBO run programs such as TAY and SMSS (Jay Z.)

IT Project Suggestions:
1. Family & Client access – Training and education computer use
2. Internet vouchers
3. Cell phone WAN cards so staff out-in-the-field can have internet connection for their laptop
4. Mobile IT Lab
5. Computer classes at Enterprise Resource Center
6. PC’s at MHSA housing developments

Things to Consider:
1. Contractor needs/enhancements for HER
2. How/what would families want in access to their records
3. Ability for clients to contact their clinician, doctor, etc. electronically (email system like Kaiser)
4. Marin CMHS to draft client survey on EHR, access to internet, PC skill level, etc.

Kristen requested attendees to go back to their stakeholders and ask for further ideas for the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING:
Thursday, July 24, 2008
10:00AM to Noon
Location: TBA