The MHARN

The Mental Health Agency Research Network (MHARN) is a developing network for sharing knowledge and research collaboration between the CMHSR's Department of Psychiatry and other academic, DMH personal, community provider, consumers and family members. Its mission is to close the gap between science and service in mental health services in Massachusetts by improving implementation of evidence based practices and benefits to consumers.

Why Develop the MHARN

- Disseminate information about evidence-based practices and DMH system priorities
- Engage academics, community providers, and consumers in a dialogue about research & evaluation
- Continue to see organizational change strategies in translation evidence-based practices to local needs and circumstances

MHARN Objectives

- Increase awareness about evidence-based practices and programs
- Improve translation of knowledge about evidence-based practice into changes in practitioners' behavior and benefits to consumers
- Improve the adherence to DMH providers, communities and families by conducting research in DMH community settings

MHARN Goals

- Disseminate information about evidence-based practices and DMH system priorities
- Engage academics, DMH and agency provider, and community in a dialogue about research & evaluation
- Use technical assistance and organizational change strategies to assist with implementing evidence based practices
- Increase collaboration, communication, and training
- Partner with DMH and community agencies in grant writing and conducting research in practice settings

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MHARN Objectives

- Develop a statewide network for knowledge sharing, technical assistance & collaborative research

MHARN Goals

- Disseminate information about evidence-based practices and DMH system priorities
- Engage academics, community providers, and consumers in a dialogue about research & evaluation
- Continue to see organizational change strategies in translation evidence-based practices to local needs and circumstances

MHARN Structure

The MHARN has three tiers: a base tier of service providers receiving information about innovations in services and treatments, a middle group of provider sites participating in surveys and other observational research and, at the top, a small group of providers who participate actively, in highly structured intervention studies. Movement of members through the various tiers, or levels of participation, will be fluid. Active partners in collaborative research & grant-writing

Bidirectional Work

Research Collaboration
Active partners in collaborative research & grant-writing

Engagement
Knowledge translation, implementing evidence-based practice, organizational change

Research and Evaluation
Dissemination
Large demonstrated network of information seeking providers/consumers

A broad, statewide representation of providers, individual patient sites and providers ensure that the organization is utilizing real research information in a meaningful way for the creation of evidence-based protocols. As a partnership and advocacy organization, the MHARN is a part of the work to move the science of mental health services into the practice setting. The MHARN is dedicated to the ongoing dissemination of research findings into practice settings, and to the ongoing evaluation of the implementation process.